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**THE TIMES**  
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## Olympic diving coach suspended after sex assault claims



Edge: unavailable for Atlanta Olympic Games

By CRAIG LORD, CAROL MIDGLEY AND PAUL WILKINSON

THE British Olympic diving coach has been suspended after being arrested and questioned by child protection officers over allegations of indecent assault.

Mike Edge, 45, was arrested in Sheffield, where he works as the diving development officer, on April 24. He has told the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain he will not be available for selection for the Olympic Games in Atlanta this year. It would have been his fourth Olympics as a national coach.

Lyndsey Fraser, 34, a former

national diving champion who competed at the 1984 Olympics, was arrested on the same day at Crystal Palace, south London, and interviewed by members of the child protection unit from Borehamwood, Hertfordshire. Both are understood to "utterly refute" the accusations, which relate to alleged offences in the 1980s.

The arrests were confirmed as it emerged that the Amateur Swimming Federation will launch a national computer database of up to 50,000 swimming and diving coaches, teachers and club helpers in the autumn in an attempt to weed out suspected child abusers. The move

comes a year after Paul Hickson, the former Olympic swimming coach, was jailed for 17 years for raping and assaulting 11 girls in his charge.

Mr Edge has been temporarily suspended as the team coach for England and Great Britain by the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA).

David Sparkes, the chief executive of the association, said in a statement: "The ASA is deeply concerned about the police investigations into allegations made against Mike Edge, as it is in all cases concerning abuse or harassment. It is a matter of great seriousness and the ASA fully supports the process of law in these

instances. In accordance with the ASA's own strict guidelines, Mike Edge has been temporarily suspended from his duties as a team coach for both England and Great Britain until the matter has been fully resolved."

Mr Sparkes emphasised that it was very important "not to presuppose the guilt or otherwise of either of these two people" pending police investigations.

Last night Mr Edge was suspended from his post as diving development officer at the Pond's Forge swimming complex in Sheffield, where the national team often trains.

However, Ms Fraser was still coaching at Highgate Diving Club in

north London, where she trains children from the age of ten. Jim McNally, the president of the club, said: "When it comes to this case we believe in the premise of law — that you are innocent until proven guilty. We would support the alleged victims and all the alleged offenders. She will not be going away on trips with children, nor will she be alone with the children on the poolside. There will be other adult coaches there."

Brian Spiro, Mr Edge's solicitor, said yesterday: "My client has not yet been charged with any offence and the allegations are entirely refuted. We do not wish to make any further comment for the time being."



Fraser: coaches children at north London club

## Labour plans tough line on teenage crime

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

YOUNG offenders could face a "three strikes and you're out" approach to crime under Labour, which plans to bring persistent teenage lawbreakers before the courts more quickly.

Labour leaders want to end the trend of repeat cautioning, which they say has led teenagers to assume that no action will be taken even if they commit a series of petty offences. A Labour government would expect police to be brought to court any juvenile committing a third minor offence.

Labour believes that allowing juveniles to remain unpunished when they first offend sows the seeds for habitual offending in later life. But some young people have been cautioned up to six times for vandalism, graffiti and shoplifting before facing court.

Now Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, is to announce plans to tighten Michael Howard's guidelines urging police forces to cut the number of juvenile cautions, which have risen steadily to a peak of 124,700 in 1994.

But while advocating a

tougher line against those committing a third offence, Labour is pressing for second-time offenders to be given a "super caution" which will involve extensive interviews and advice sessions with social workers, teachers or other local community leaders.

Although a similar system has been taken up voluntarily by some forces, the Association of Chief Police Officers has criticised the fact that it is used inconsistently.

Labour's home affairs team points to high levels of success in some city areas where young offenders have been encouraged to take part in social and sporting activities, and it also claims that the "caution plus" scheme leads to closer contacts between police and other agencies that can bring substantial longer term savings in crime prevention.

Senior figures are concerned that police forces are backing away from prosecuting young offenders because of the amount of work involved, and they believe that only the firm presumption that a third offence will lead to

a court appearance will produce tough action right across the country. However, the party is understood to be reluctant to make such a policy compulsory as it believes there must be room for leniency in exceptional cases.

Labour's attempts to address high levels of juvenile crime come in the wake of a package of proposals announced by Mr Straw last year, under which young offenders would have to carry out community work, sometimes on behalf of their victim. Mr Straw told last year's party conference that swifter action was needed to stop teenagers becoming habitual offenders by the age of 17.

Mr Howard has already pressed police forces to veer away from repeat cautions and prosecute persistent offenders, but the response is said to have been patchy. The Police Federation has also criticised the amount of repeat cautioning as bringing the police service "into disrepute" and suggested that many young people equated a caution with being "let off".



Freed Dutch hostage Martha Klein, who is seven months pregnant, is helped from a helicopter on her way to hospital in Jakarta yesterday

## Jungle hostage saw fellow captives hacked to death

By ANDREW DRUMMOND IN JAKARTA AND BILL FROST

A YOUNG British hostage watched helplessly as two fellow captives were killed by Papuan rebels when special forces attacked their jungle base, it was disclosed last night.

Anna Melvor was then left alone in the forest as the rebels, who had attacked the two Indonesians pair with machetes and a poison arrow, dragged their victims away and abandoned them to bleed to death.

Miss Melvor, a 21-year-old Cambridge graduate, and the two Indonesians had become separated from eight other hostages, who were freed soon after troops launched their attack on the rebel camp on a mountain ridge in the Irian Jaya jungle. She was rescued only after hours of fighting between the soldiers and the kidnapers that ended with two of the 20 rebels being shot dead and another two cap-

tured. Four others had been killed earlier in the five-day operation to free the hostages, who had been held prisoner since January.

Last night all nine hostages — four Cambridge graduates, two Dutch nationals, one of them seven months pregnant, and three Indonesians — were in hospital in Jakarta. They were all thin and bewildered, but only three needed intensive care; the others were said just to need a good rest.

Ms Melvor telephoned her family in Bournemouth to say that she was none the worse physically for her ordeal. Her mother, Susan, said that she sounded "absolutely amazing", but added: "This was not the right time to talk about what they had been through."

Daniel Start also rang his family in West Sussex to reassure them. His stepmother, Jan, said his first question

was about the English spring. "He wanted to know if he had missed the bluebells. He was thrilled when I told him that the spring was late and they weren't all out yet — if he hurried home to Midhurst, he would still see them."

She added: "Daniel sounded composed and calm at first — happy to be free. But there was great sadness, too, over the two Indonesian hostages killed when the special forces went in. They were his friends and we were all crying. I think Daniel is in a state of shock at what happened."

Mr Start also told his family of the hostages' fear that they might never escape the jungle of Irian Jaya, for whose independence the kidnapers were fighting. "He said that because of the nature of the terrain, only James Bond could free them, they were beginning to lose hope when

Continued on page 2, col 5

## Cambridge on top for fourth year

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

CAMBRIDGE University retains a slim lead over Oxford in this year's Times university rankings, published today.

The light blues have headed the league table since The Times Good University Guide was first published four years ago. Edinburgh, the top university in Scotland over the same period, has been joined by St Andrews this year.

Oxford Brookes and Kingston are the top new universities in the table, intended as a signpost for students considering a first degree, giving a broad indication of a university's standing.

Welcoming the news, Dr Robert Smith, Kingston's vice-chancellor, said the quality of his university had been underlined in official ratings. Only five points out of a

thousand separate Cambridge from Oxford, partly because of the changes in methodology. Oxford suffered previously for the variety of higher degrees among its staff when the proportion of PhDs alone was used as a measure of academic qualifications.

Sir David Williams, Cambridge's vice-chancellor, said: "I am pleased — for my colleagues, for the student body and for the technical and secretarial staff. It is easy to approve of surveys such as this when one does well, but The Times in this annual exercise offers a valuable and well-directed service to all those interested in higher education in the UK."

Good University Guide, pages 34, 35

## Ban on 'Jerusalem' puts memorial service in a jam

By JOANNA BALE

ONE of England's best-loved hymns, Jerusalem, is at the centre of a row between leading clergy.

The classic hymn, based on William Blake's poem and sung by generations of schoolchildren, last night concert promenaders and Women's Institute members, smacks of privilege, according to Canon Donald Gray, the Speaker's chaplain at St Margaret's,

Westminster. As reported in the Times Diary yesterday, Canon Gray told peers organising next month's memorial service for Baroness Faithfull that Jerusalem was not acceptable. He objects to the reference to "dark satanic mills", which he believes represents the Church's neglect of the inner cities.

Canon Gray, who leads MPs at prayer, said yesterday: "The object of too much of our economic and social policy has been to derive as much

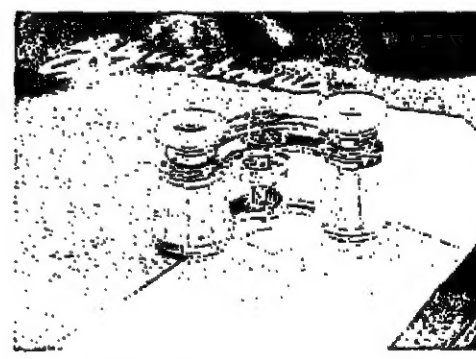
wealth as we can out of the industrial and commercial areas, in order that we can enjoy the delights of the country... We must build a new Jerusalem, not just in the fields and pastures, but in the cities and towns."

The Church of Scotland recently excluded Jerusalem from its new hymnbook on the ground that it was not suitable for the present age.

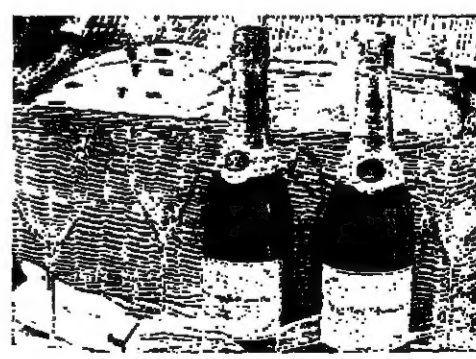
The Rev John Broadhurst, soon to be the new Bishop of Fulham, criticised

Canon Gray. "It is an English legend put to music," he said. "When I think how many modern hymns there are that are not really Christian-based, it seems strange to pick on a hymn that so many people love."

The Rev Michael Garland, secretary of the Hymn Society, said: "It is a splendid tune and has been sung on national occasions. It seems anything goes at funerals now so it would be rather churlish to refuse Jerusalem."



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OPERA BOTTLES

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WINDSOR HORSE TRIALS	25-26 May
1ST CORNHILL TEST MATCH V DUBLIN, EDGEMONT	6-10 June
ROYAL ASCOT	18-21 June
CARDIFF CRICKET CHAMPIONS	20 June-14 July
WINDSOR TROUS CHAMPIONSHIPS	24 June-1 July
ROUND THE ISLAND RACE, ISLE OF WIGHT	29 June
VEVEE CLOUQUET GOLD CUP POLO, COWDRAY PARK	29 June-2 July
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# Three children get leukaemia in town with polluted water

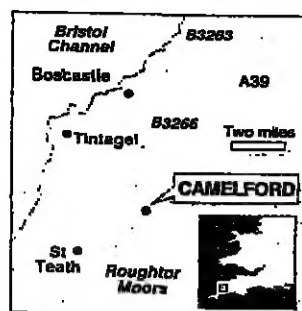
By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THREE children in the same class at a school in Camelford, north Cornwall, have contracted leukaemia. But Dr David Miles, director of public health for Cornwall, dismissed fears yesterday that the cases were linked with an accident which contaminated the town's drinking water with aluminium sulphate and affected 20,000 people in 1988.

The two boys, one of whom died in January, and a girl were all aged about 14, and pupils at Sir James Smith's Community School. The surviving children are being treated for the disease and are said to be doing well.

"Water poisoning is extremely unlikely because the chemicals in the water episode were inorganic," Dr Miles said. "Where chemicals have been associated with causes of cancer they tend to be organic. Therefore at this stage we think it is unlikely."

He is seeking expert advice from the Department of Health on this and other aspects of clusters of specific diseases. Nothing was being ruled out, he said, adding that it was "remarkably unusual" to have three cases in the same tutor group at the same



school. Before this cluster, the last recorded case from Camelford had been in 1984. Normally, Dr Miles said, only between three and nine cases of leukaemia would occur each year in children aged up to 16 in the whole health authority area.

Dr Miles said that all three children, who have been diagnosed with different types of leukaemia, had been living in Camelford at the time of the water pollution incident. "I am not confident we will get to the bottom of this. Causes of leukaemia are many, and in most cases it is not possible to determine the exact cause or group of causes."

The possibility that the leukaemias may have been caused by the radioactive gas

radon, or by high-voltage electricity cables, will also be checked by scientists.

The school's head teacher, Angela Perlmutter, said a health authority helpline would be open to answer inquiries from parents. In a letter to parents she said they should not fear that their children were at risk because leukaemia was not contagious.

Paul Tyler, MP for North Cornwall, said that the three cases were "a remarkable coincidence". He reiterated his calls for a public inquiry into the pollution incident. Local people have complained of poor health ever since.

Leukaemia clusters have been observed in many places before. Several have been seen around nuclear power stations, leading to claims that they are caused by radiation. Others have no connection to nuclear power, and many theories have been advanced to explain them.

Among the most persuasive is the suggestion that childhood leukaemia may indeed be caused by an infective agent, so far unidentified. Leukaemia in cats is caused by a virus.

According to this theory, the disease emerges in clusters when there are population movements which bring vulnerable and immune communities into contact. There seems, however, no special reason why this should apply to Camelford.

The Leukaemia Research Fund said it was extremely rare for several leukaemia cases to occur in the same place, at the same time and in the same age group. A spokesman said: "Indeed it is possibly unique in the UK. It is very important to carry out a careful study to determine whether there are any common factors among the affected children."

Two of the cases were acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and the third acute myeloid leukaemia. "There is little, if any, evidence to suggest that these two different forms have the same underlying causes," the spokesman said.

## 13 counties may be at risk from radon gas

By ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A FURTHER 100,000 households could be exposed to radon gas, one of the biggest causes of lung cancer, the Department of Environment confirmed yesterday.

The new zones, which had previously been thought to be free from risk, are highlighted on a map published by the National Radiological Protection Board. They include parts of Somerset, Cumbria, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northumberland, North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Wiltshire. Householders will be invited by the board to take part

in a free test to identify whether their home is affected. Remedial measures will cost up to £800 and include sealing floors and improving airflow under houses.

In each area more than 1 per cent of homes is expected to be above the Government's action level for radon. In some areas, up to 30 per cent of homes are thought to be affected. The gas, produced by the decay of natural uranium, disperses quickly in open air but can accumulate in buildings.

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health yesterday accused the Government of ignoring warnings.



Love in the fast lane: Benetton has decided Kumiko and Alesi must leave their romance in the shade

## F1 team bans pitstop passion to stop lover driving Alesi round the bend

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN MONTE CARLO

FAST cars and women have always been a feature of the Monaco grand prix, the showpiece of the Formula One season, but this year one team has slammed the brakes on the one to help speed up the other. Jean Alesi, the dashing Frenchman who was hired last year by the Benetton team to replace the world champion, Michael Schumacher, is having a hard time earning his £4 million this season. Five races have come and gone without him living up to expectations — and his team has decided something must be done.

Benetton admit their driver has been encouraged to banish all "distractions" at grands prix, and chief among these is, it seems, his girlfriend, Kumiko Goto, a Japanese actress famed in her homeland. The Benetton team deny it, but it is understood that she has been banned from the race-track. Kumiko, once a fixture, was absent from the San Marino grand prix a fortnight ago and has not

been seen here so far. The rumours suggest she has been banned for three races, which means she will miss the Spanish grand prix at the end of the month, too.

Not that she will be the first female exile from the pit lane. In 1992, Jordan was forced to ban the wife of Stefano Modena from circuits because she had taken to calling her own press conferences.

In 1994, Sandy Andretti, the wife of the American driver, Michael Andretti, caused consternation among the McLaren team by donning a headset and talking to her husband while he was still out on the track. She was asking, apparently, where they were going for dinner that night.

More recently, Pedro Diniz, the Ligier driver, is thought to have suggested himself that his girlfriend stay away from races at the end of last season because of her fondness for another driver. She has been reprieved now, though.

Ian Phillips, the commercial director at Jordan, a team famed for its liberal, laid-

back approach, said that clauses about the attendance of wives and girlfriends were often written into drivers' contracts. "We have done agreements saying no girlfriend until the day of the race," he said. "Mostly, though, we leave it up to them."

Damon Hill's wife, Georgie, one of the most articulate of the current crop of drivers' wives, comes to only three or four races a year so that their children are not left alone too often. The behaviour of partners, she says, depends on the requirements of their husbands or boyfriends. "Some want you to be right there all the time," she said. "Some seem to want to know you're around if they want you and others just say stay away completely until all their work is done."

"Damon is very happy for me to be at the circuit. I always make sure he knows where I am so he can find me if he needs to. Being there is most important at the end of the day so he can have someone to talk to that he trusts. How do I avoid being a distraction? I try to keep my brain on at all times."

## Museums chief may face quiz on medals

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE DIRECTOR of the National Galleries of Scotland has been criticised for his decision to sell his personal collection of Renaissance and baroque bronzes and medals.

Timothy Clifford, head of the galleries since 1984, planned to sell the collection of 597 medals anonymously to alleviate financial difficulties. But, because it was one of the largest collections to come onto the market for a long time, his identity leaked out.

Tristram Besterman, convenor of the Museums' Association ethics committee, said the sale was to be discussed at the committee's next meeting. He said he had spoken briefly to Mr Clifford.

"I'd rather he hadn't done this and I'm not happy about it but it is a grey area," he said. "It may be that he has not breached the rules. He informed his institution and sought their permission. They told him it was all right as long as he sold anonymously and therefore was not trading on his name."

The ethical code of the association states that no member of the museum profession should "deal in material covered by the institution's collecting policy". The professional should be aware that such dealing might affect other institutions and is best avoided altogether.

The National Gallery of Scotland has built up a collection of Renaissance commemorative medals under Mr Clifford's directorship in the past ten years. A spokesman for the gallery said: "The matter is a private one. The Gallery will not be bidding for the medals as that would constitute a conflict of interest."

Mr Clifford said he was being forced to sell for financial reasons and denied there was any conflict of interest. He is not selling anything he has acquired since he has been director and is planning to donate several of his medals to the museum. The collection, which is expected to fetch between £250,000 and £300,000 when it is auctioned by Spink and Son in London on Tuesday, was advertised as "the property of a gentleman".

## Rape victim testifies a second time

A VICTIM of a convicted rapist who gave evidence against him 11 years ago returned to court for a case with what the prosecution called "echoes of similarity".

A jury at Maidstone Crown Court had decided that John Blackman, 49, abducted a 19-year-old girl and subjected her to a three-day attack at his flat in Deptford, southeast London.

The judge allowed the jury to hear evidence from the woman he abducted and raped in 1985. Blackman admitted that attack and was jailed by Leicester Crown Court for nine years.

In the present case, Blackman met the girl in a pub in January last year. She told the court: "I couldn't escape. He was beside me all the time. I was scared, felt sick and shaking. Every time I said no, he hit me."

She escaped by convincing him that she would return to live with him and he agreed to drive her home to Margate, Kent. When she got home she found that her mother had reported her missing.

Blackman was found guilty of six charges of rape, one of attempted rape, false imprisonment and indecent assault. Sentencing was adjourned until June 28 for medical, psychiatric and pre-sentence reports.

## Film-maker strikes back in £1.3bn Star Wars deal

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT, AT THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

GEORGE LUCAS, the man behind the *Star Wars* film trilogy, is to make three more of the science-fiction epics, aimed at fans from a new teenage generation, after clinching the biggest deal in cinema history.

Lucas, writer-director of *Star Wars* (1977), *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980) and *Return of the Jedi* (1983), has agreed the \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) contract with the makers of Pepsi. It has been rumoured that he is keen for Kenneth Branagh to step into Sir Alec Guinness's shoes as the Jedi knight, Obi-wan Kenobi.

The Pepsi deal, which includes space-adventure merchandising, made jaws drop even at seen-it-all Cannes. Pepsi, which recently changed the livery of its cola cans to blue, presumably sees the deal with Lucasfilm as another way of appealing to teenage Pepsi drinkers.

The *Star Wars* films have developed a cult following among the young. The videos were top-ten hits all last year, with 1.5 million copies sold in the run-up to Christmas.

Video games, and spin-off books and toys, have fed the *Star Wars* mania. Last November, Nintendo announced that it was releasing a video



Lucas: biggest deal in cinema history

game called *Shadows Of The Empire*: players pit their wits against the *Star Wars* characters.

The films that Lucas is to make with Pepsi will tell the story before his original *Star Wars* films — which are themselves to be given digitally remastered soundtracks and enhanced visual effects and returned to the big screen.

The success of the original *Star Wars* epic surprised even 20th Century Fox, which handed Lucas a \$11.5 million budget after his pitch had been rejected by every studio:

audiences for science fiction had been thought to be limited. Spectacular special effects — laser duels, exploding planets and spaceship skirmishes — catapulted the film to success. Tongue-in-cheek humour and Harrison Ford helped.

Roger A. Enrico, chief executive of PepsiCo, said: "Lucasfilm has and will continue to change the way movies are made, and this partnership will forever change the way movies are marketed." This would allow them "to truly connect with virtually every consumer in the world". Maybe soon in outer space, too.

News that cinema's biggest blockbusters will be made in the United States came as "a great disappointment" to Sir Sydney Samuelson, commissioner of the British Film Commission. The original *Star Wars* pictures were made at Ealing.

However, Sir Sydney added: "George Lucas and his colleagues are great admirers of the British film industry, with our skills base. We'd much prefer him to do them in Britain, but a tie-up with Pepsi is all to do with marketing. George will be back."

Giles Coren, page 19

## Gordonstoun pupils ground RAF

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

PUPILS at Gordonstoun, the independent boarding school attended by the Princess Royal's children, have grounded the Royal Air Force while they sit their examinations.

The school is three miles from the RAF base at Lossiemouth in Morayshire and directly under the take-off flight path for the RAF's Tornado jets. From today until the end of the month the RAF is banning take-offs at certain times of the day while the 420 pupils sit their exams. James Thomas, a school spokesman, said: "We are directly in the flight path. They are our next-door neigh-



Lossiemouth's Tornados will not fly during exams

bours. They are certainly noisy enough to disrupt pupils' concentration. For most of them, the exams are a life-or-death matter."

Mr Thomas said the RAF and the school had a good history of co-operation. "We tend to socialise at high days and holidays. They send their careers people into the school

a couple of times a year and on the whole they are very co-operative. Occasionally if we need an aerial photograph they will help out."

RAF Lossiemouth said the school had written to the base asking for its co-operation during the examination season. "They sent us a timetable and between Friday May 17

and Friday May 31, at certain times of the day, we will not take off. The ban means a certain amount of disruption and inconvenience, but we can live with it, and if it leads to good community relations then that is encouraging."

The Ministry of Defence is considering flying the Royal Family in a French helicopter for official visits, instead of a new British aircraft which has already been ordered for the RAF.

The two ageing Wessex helicopters assigned to the royals and members of the Government have to be replaced and the MoD is studying a number of options, including purchasing the French Super Puma.

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# One in six secondary pupils struggles to read a textbook



Shephard: new survey confirms her concerns

By DAVID CHARTER  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

READING textbooks and using a dictionary are a struggle for one in six secondary school pupils, a survey disclosed yesterday.

More pupils are arriving at secondary schools years behind their age group in reading, but the Basic Skills Agency found that most of their teachers received no training in teaching the basics of literacy.

The disclosure will add to concerns over reading standards. The findings from 200 schools follow an

inspectors' report earlier on children's reading standards in inner-city primary schools in three London boroughs. This found that two-fifths of 11-year-olds were two years or more behind their age range.

The agency's survey comes as 11-year-olds take national tests in English. Last year's results, which showed that less than half of pupils starting secondary school had reached the level expected of their age, led the Government to introduce league tables of primary schools, to raise standards.

Jim Pateman, a development

officer with the agency, said: "All the evidence indicates that if you have reading problems at ten which are not being tackled, you are likely to come out of school with reading and writing difficulties which are going to make your job and life opportunities severely restricted."

The survey for the agency by MORI found that three in five secondary school teachers had had no in-service training on teaching reading and writing.

Although 65 per cent of the 4,532 pupils surveyed thought they were good readers for their age, 10 per

cent felt they were poor at writing and 20 per cent wanted extra help with reading, while nearly 40 per cent admitted difficulties with spelling. A further 15 per cent said they had difficulty looking up words in the dictionary; 16 per cent had difficulty reading textbooks; and 37 per cent said they needed extra help with mathematics.

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, is setting up 25 centres for remedial training of primary school teachers in English and mathematics. She acted after Chris Woodhead, the

Chief Inspector of Schools, said there were 15,000 poor teachers in English schools.

Concerns were heightened earlier this month with a highly critical report from Ofsted, the school inspection agency, on reading levels at 45 primary schools in the three inner London boroughs. Mrs Shephard then backed the call from Mr Woodhead for more traditional methods of teaching reading. Yesterday she said: "This survey confirms the message in the Chief Inspector of Schools' annual report and the recent Ofsted study of read-

ing standards in three London boroughs."

The Basic Skills Agency yesterday announced grants to more than 100 secondary schools to help with in-service training in the basics. The move is aimed at helping teachers to make progress with the 10 per cent of pupils who leave school without a GCSE pass. Mr Pateman added: "We have got to do something at secondary level because these kids are otherwise unlikely to achieve at GCSE and to succeed in life."

Letters, page 21

## Chirac spared as Glasgow makes meal of beef crisis

By ALAN HAMILTON

PRESIDENT CHIRAC, on the third day of his state visit to Britain, was narrowly saved from yet another potentially embarrassing confrontation with British beef by the good people of Glasgow.

As the President, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, went walkabout in Easterhouse, one of the city's vast, soulless and famously deprived housing estates, a patriotic butcher sprang to action. Tommy Boyle emerged from his shop bearing two trays of buns containing his own finest Scottish beefburgers.

But as he pushed his way through onlookers in a valiant

attempt to offer his wares to the presidential party and thereby hammer home a political point, Mr Boyle was hijacked. The crowd closed in around him. M Chirac strolled past smiling in benign ignorance of the drama, and within seconds every last burger had been snatched and wolfed.

Easterhouse does not see a French President, or indeed a free hamburger, every day. Built in the late 50s and early 60s with almost no social infrastructure, it has twice the unemployment rate of the rest of Glasgow, twice the rate of violent crime and twice the

rate of babies born below normal weight.

But in recent years the Easterhouse community, which has declined to about 40,000, has been making strenuous efforts to pull itself up by its boot straps, with local involvement in planning and public spending decisions, and help to its young people from the Prince of Wales's various charities.

President Chirac had asked to see community work among deprived urban populations in the hope of learning useful lessons for France, where, like Scotland, tenements are widespread. He also wanted to see something of community volunteer groups, given that France will soon end compulsory military service and may replace it with a civilian equivalent.

When M Chirac stepped from his car he was greeted by a crowd of several hundred residents, waving exclusively the Scottish saltire, without a Union Jack in sight. The President went straight to the crowd to shake hands and kiss babies, but beef was on the menu within moments. Jean Craig, who runs a nearby dairy farm, buttonholed M Chirac and told him to keep up the pressure to have the EU beef ban lifted. The President simply smiled, but Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, leapt between the two and said quickly to the farmer,

who if she is a Tory voter will be the only one for miles: "We're working on it."

The President, who appeared to cope well with the thick local accent, met several young Easterhouse residents who had built up businesses on small start-up grants from the Prince's Trust. M Chirac also met members of the Prince's volunteers, who have developed a form of civilian national service in the community.

At St Leonard's School, M Chirac was greeted in French by Kathleen Devaney, 14, who offered a carefully rehearsed: "M Le President, bienvenue à notre école". The President responded with a

"merci" and a kiss on both Kathleen's cheeks.

At the school the President saw an example of a successful recent venture by the Prince's Trust, a nationwide chain of study support centres where children from noisy or crowded homes can retreat in the evening to do their homework.

He also met Lisa McGrath, 12, dressed as the best known figure of shared Franco-Scottish history, Mary Queen of Scots.

M Chirac appeared impressed by Easterhouse's attempts at self-improvement. "It is a fantastic experience to mobilise the people and the volunteers for the benefit of the majority, particularly the

children," he said, reverting for the first time to French. "It is a wonderful success, and I think we have many ideas to take back to Paris."

As President and Prince later toured a Glasgow optical factory, and an Anglo-French joint venture making defence equipment, the subject of drugs on the Easterhouse estate was raised as the Prince sat with workers during their tea break. He told Albert McKinley, 51, a process inspector at the Pilkington Thomson plant, of his concerns for his own sons: "When they are younger you can keep control, but when they get older they get their own minds."

While M Chirac was served British beef when he dined with the Queen on Tuesday, there were no similar encounters yesterday. He enjoyed a lunch of Balmoral salmon at Glasgow's city chambers. Similarly there was not a piece of beef in sight at the French ambassador's residence in London last night, when M Chirac served the Queen French lamb at his return banquet.

They do not, of course, have any scruples about eating beef in Easterhouse. A free burger is a free burger, whatever they say in Brussels.

Beef talks, page 8  
Philip Howard, page 20



M Chirac and the Prince meeting residents in Easterhouse during a tour of schemes to improve community life

## Police aim for early learning over drugs

By STEWART TENDLER

TEACHING children the dangers of drug abuse should begin in primary school, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner said yesterday.

Sir Paul Condon said young children could be introduced to the subject gently. The dangers would be spelled out as teachers and police talked to classes about general safety and health. Officers were already taking part in drug awareness programmes in some primary schools.

Sir Paul, speaking at the launch of a Scotland Yard campaign against drugs, said: "If we are telling primary schoolchildren about the dangers in life, from the road or strangers, one of the significant dangers they will face is the danger from drugs."

He said every secondary school already had a drug problem or the potential for one. So far, there had been few problems with younger children, although there had been cases of ten-year-olds dabbling with drugs.

A video produced by London schoolchildren is being distributed to every secondary school as part of the £250,000 campaign. Aimed at children aged 12 to 14, it includes interviews with addicts, criminals and prostitutes in rehabilitation units and prison.

Alongside the anti-drugs message, the Yard plans to increase pressure on dealers and traffickers with more intelligence and surveillance work.

## Leaders pledge to forge closer cultural links

By MICHAEL BINYON  
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR and President Chirac have announced a school partnership project to increase contacts between young people in Britain and France.

Britain has pledged more than £1 million to the "Dialogue 2000" scheme, which over the next four years will enable 200 schools and colleges in both countries to develop innovative exchanges. Pupils and their teachers will spend several

months in their partner schools, working together on joint curriculum projects. The two leaders also announced a programme to take the best of each other's writing and publishing. "Copyright 2000" will encourage more intensive links between authors, translators, journalists and scholars. A Franco-British book fair will be held in October.

Mr Major and M Chirac also announced a joint initiative to step up the fight against drugs.

Leading article, page 21

# THE MAN WHO WROTE 'YESTERDAY' TALKS TO STEVE WRIGHT TOMORROW.

Paul McCartney talks about his life-long admiration for Buddy Holly, the Beatles' recent get-together in the studio, and lots more. Plus amazing but true facts, all wrapped up in three hours of classic pop music. Steve Wright's Saturday Show, 10-1pm.

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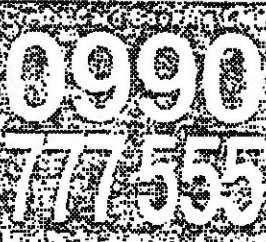
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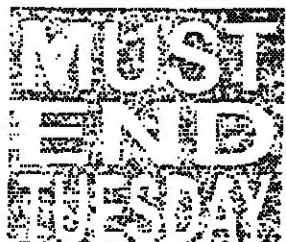
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# 'Evil' paedophiles who killed Daniel may never go free

By RICHARD DUCE

TWO paedophiles who acted out their sexual fantasies by kidnapping and murdering a nine-year-old boy were jailed for life yesterday, with a recommendation that they never be released.

A jury took less than two hours to convict Brett Tyler, 30, of murdering Daniel Handley after he and his former lover, Timothy Morss, had sexually abused the boy. Morss, 33, had earlier admitted murder.

Mr Justice Curtis told the two men, who have previous convictions for sex offences with young boys: "You two are evil vultures. Your homosexual lusts are directed against other people's sons."

"No society can tolerate men kidnapping a child off the street while playing, nor such inhuman, callous conduct to a child. You are both calculating men. I don't believe you are truly sorry for what you have done."

Tyler, of no fixed address, and Morss of Leyton, east London, were given three concurrent life sentences for murder, false imprisonment and a serious sexual offence. The judge warned them: "Life means life and I want you to be under no illusion whatsoever that I propose to recommend that you serve exactly that."

He said records of the case should be "preserved forever so anyone considering your futures will be under no illusions as to what you are. Both of you are a terrible danger with your evil and distorted minds. No one is likely to know when, if ever, you are safe to go back on our streets."

After the men were taken down to the cells at the Old Bailey, the judge praised Acting Detective Inspector Stephen Cavanagh, who interviewed Tyler, for resisting the temptation to attack him. "He should be taken before the Commissioner to be congratulated on resisting the temptation to attack Tyler who, in the judgment of most people in the street, should have been attacked."



Daniel Handley: he was snatched from the street

lated on resisting the temptation to attack Tyler who, in the judgment of most people in the street, should have been attacked."

The jury are expected to be offered counselling after listening to the details surrounding Daniel's death.

The boy was four months old in 1986 when Morss and Tyler met for the first time in Wormwood Scrubs, where both were serving sentences for sex offences. Morss had been jailed for five years and Tyler for four.

The prosecution said both had "an abiding, perverted sexual interest in young boys". Morss had harboured a fantasy of abducting, assaulting and then murdering a blond-haired, blue-eyed boy. They had discussed their fantasies during therapy sessions.

Detailing their obsessions was eventually to lead to their capture. After the facts of Daniel's death were made public on the BBC Crime-watch programme, a prison officer and a psychiatrist who had interviewed Morss telephoned police to tell them of his fantasy.

Both Tyler and Morss had been abused when they were four years old and living in children's homes. After leaving prison they became lovers, each "winding up" the other

with talk of sex with boys. In 1994, they decided to make Morss's fantasy a reality.

Daniel lived in Beckton, east London. His mother, Maxine, had five children by three different fathers, and two had gone into care because she could no longer cope. The "streetwise" child dressed in hand-me-down clothes and earned small amounts of cash by pushing trolleys for customers at a supermarket.

The two men, cruising streets the prosecution described as an "ideal hunting ground", came upon Daniel, blond-haired and blue-eyed, riding his BMX bicycle.

After bundling him into the back of a blue Peugeot estate car, they drove him to a flat above a cab office in Camberwell, south London, owned by David Guttridge, another of Morss's lovers. There, Morss and Tyler videotaped each other abusing the boy.

The men strangled Daniel as they drove along the M4 towards Bristol. The body was discovered in March last year in a shallow grave close to a house which Morss shared with Guttridge. Tyler and Morss fled to the Philippines, where Tyler had made frequent trips to indulge in his desire for sex with boys and where he also had a Filipino lover.

Their flight was paid for by Guttridge, 59, now living in Brentwood, Essex, who was jailed for 30 months yesterday for attempting to pervert the course of justice. He, too, was a child sex offender who met Morss and Tyler in prison.

Morss returned to England after he fell out with Tyler and was arrested in May last year. Tyler was tracked down by two Scotland Yard detectives, one of them Mr Cavanagh, who travelled to the Philippines. He confessed to strangling Daniel, and again on his return to England, but later retracted the confession and attempted to blame Morss alone for the killing.

After the case, Detective Superintendent Edwin Williams, who headed the inquiry, said: "If you had a scale of evilness, Morss and Tyler would be at the top. There is no higher degree of barbarousness you can go to than what they did to that young child."

Mrs Handley left court declining to comment. She was accompanied by a representative of a Sunday newspaper.

At a brief press conference later, Mr Williams called for the introduction of a national register of known paedophiles so that their movements could be monitored. "It would certainly help future investigations if we knew where paedophiles were living."



Morss, left, and Tyler, described by the judge as "a terrible danger with your evil and distorted minds"



A bushman in animal skins is put on show at a fair in South Africa earlier this month. In Britain fears are growing that tribesmen are to be moved from their desert home

## Peers urge action to keep bushmen in the Kalahari

By ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Government has ordered the British High Commissioner in Botswana to head into the Kalahari desert to meet the threatened Khwe bushmen.

The orders were dispatched yesterday after peers organised a campaign to save the ancient tribe, which they believe is under threat from the Botswana Government.

The peers claim that Botswana's ministers want the Khwe's homeland, the Central Kalahari game reserve, cleared to make way for farms and a growing tourist trade. The bushmen say that lorries will come after the rainy season to take them away. The 3,000 bushmen left in the reserve have been offered homes in urban settlements with running water, schooling, clinics and free clothing, but refused to go.

Lord Pearson of Rannoch, who led the appeal in the Lords yesterday, said 40,000 years of tradition would end if they were forced into "urban ghettos to wear underwear and eat fast food. They would turn into beggars."

Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Minister for Overseas Development, tried to calm fears, noting that Botswana had a "very good human rights record". But peers are adamant that the tribe is in danger. They say Britain promised to protect the tribesmen in the 1950s and cannot break the agreement. Over 30,000 tribesmen have already been resettled and have lost their hunter-gatherer skills and culture.

The British High Commissioner, David Beaumont, has been told to take a group of anthropologists and find out what is going on. Sir Laurens van der Post drew the world's attention to the plight of the bushmen 40 years ago in his film *The Lost World of the Kalahari* and predicted their demise.

In the late 1950s Britain made efforts to support the tribe's interests. In 1961 the Central Kalahari game reserve was established where the Khwe people would have special rights. Sir Seretse Khama, the President of Botswana after independence, honoured the accord until he died in 1980.

But in the past decade the bushmen have lost much of their land. Lord Pearson said they had not been included in the list of Botswana's eight official tribes and had no representation. He said that the policy was shortsighted because, far from preventing tourists from viewing game, the tribes were an attraction in themselves and protected the fragile ecosystem.

Baroness Thatcher and the Prince of Wales are supporters of the campaign. It was Lord Tebbit of Chingford who asked Baroness Chalker to send the High Commissioner. She said she doubted the rumours but, if they were true, aid might be put in question.

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9

AWAY

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# Shake-up in top law jobs offers prospect of radical pairing

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

THE judiciary faces far-reaching change next week when the new holders of the two most influential posts in the English justice system are announced.

Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, 62, is tipped to take over as Lord Chief Justice, the most senior serving judge, after the announcement that Lord Taylor of Gosforth is retiring early because he has cancer.

His place as Master of the Rolls and head of the Court of Appeal's civil division is likely to go to Lord Woolf, the law lord currently drawing up plans for the biggest overhaul of civil justice in 50 years. The appointments would usher in the most radical partnership in the justice system this century and could lead to an era of unprecedented reform.

Sir Thomas is considered one of the most formidable intellects in the judiciary. He would be more palatable to the Government than the other

front-runner for the post, Lord Justice Rose, a senior Court of Appeal judge who is talked of as the judges' choice and who has the backing of many Queen's Bench judges as well as many at the criminal Bar.

But Lord Justice Rose has made no secret of his opposition to Michael Howard's tougher sentencing plans and would follow Lord Taylor in fighting them.

Sir Thomas is considered an outstanding Master of the Rolls who, despite more limited experience in the criminal courts, would be equally able to assume the more politically influential post of Lord Chief Justice.

Many thought he would not wish to take on the job in its present form. But Sir Thomas would be likely to extend the role of Lord Chief Justice beyond the daily grind of criminal appeals. He might move more into the high-profile field of judicial review, which would enable him to

retain a key influence over the development of case law.

Sir Thomas's style is less confrontational and his language more conciliatory than that of Lord Taylor and he is not in the typical mould of the judge who has come through the ranks of the Bar and beats the drum of the courts.

One observer said: "He is a bit like Mackay in that he starts from first principles — he doesn't carry any baggage — and looks at everything afresh."

In particular he favours scrapping the High Court circuit system. He also was the only senior judge to back the Lord Chancellor's proposals to break the Bar's monopoly of advocacy rights in the higher courts.

He has also criticised Michael Howard's proposals for minimum sentences, but in the same breath gave succour to the Home Secretary by expressing sympathy with the reasoning behind the plans.

Sir Robin Auld, 58, Court of Appeal judge. The other outside tip. Father was a toolmaker who later became a publican. Failed 11-plus and went to a technical college. Won a scholarship to study law at King's College London while working as lorry driver and baker's assistant to support himself. Did Bar finals and a PhD while living in his father's pub near Dorking. Friendly and easy-going. Says he has voted for all three main political parties.

He has endeared himself to ministers in other respects: he said that the view of Sir Richard Scott on public interest immunity was "not one that all judges and practitioners would have shared".

Sir Thomas, however, is far from being a government lap dog. He went on the offensive over the shortage of judges in

Sir Thomas Bingham, 62, Master of the Rolls. Razor-sharp mind: brilliant at school (Sedburgh) and Oxford (a first and the Eldon Law Scholarship). Liberal-leaning views based on reasoned analysis, rather than gut emotion. Austere, somewhat forbidding manner conceals shyness and sense of humour. Excellent after-dinner speaker. Does not suffer fools gladly but known for his kindness. Practising Anglican. Enjoys tending his sheep at cottage in Wales.

the Court of Appeal and would not hesitate to take up arms for the judiciary if he thought their independence was at risk from the executive.

The names of Sir Thomas and Lord Justice Rose are likely to have gone forward to the Prime Minister from the Lord Chancellor after taking discreet soundings over the past

Lord Justice Kennedy, 60, son-in-law of the late Lord Devlin, he would be the first Roman Catholic in the job. Ampleforth College and Cambridge. Friendly, down to earth with easy manner — in the "modern judge" mould. No side; clubbable. All-rounder who would command respect but perhaps not break ground. Leanings conservative. A friend said: "He is quite unpretentious, has no grand style and travels on the Tube." Strong family man.

two weeks from senior judges and leaders of the profession. The Prime Minister will recommend one to the Queen.

Lord Woolf, who chaired the inquiry into the Strangeways prison riots, would be following in the steps of Lord Denning by coming down from the House of Lords to head the Court of Appeal. He

is now putting the finishing touches to his report on civil justice, which aims to cut delays and legal costs. He would be ideally placed to oversee the reforms, which would turn judges into trial managers, controlling the pace of litigation and setting deadlines on the parties.

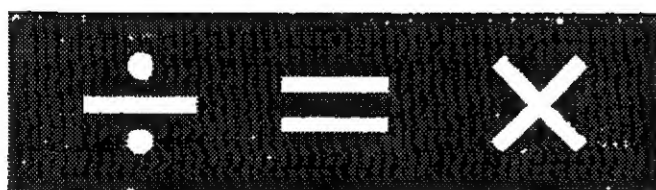
Two other names are also

being tipped for Lord Chief Justice: Lord Justice Kennedy, the late Lord Devlin's son-in-law, and Lord Justice Auld. Both are senior Court of Appeal judges who have a role in helping with the administration of the court under Lord Taylor.

Lord Woolf, 63, law lord. Possible for Lord Chief Justice and Master of the Rolls — latter most likely. Fettes College and University College London. The radical's choice. Liberal, humane reformer with a gentle manner. Prominent member of the Jewish community in London. Chaired Strangeways riots inquiry and now major inquiry into civil justice. Was tipped for Master of Rolls last time. Champion of need to protect individual rights against State.

Law Report, page 42

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## Ostrich takes off as beef alternative

### WEEKEND SHOPPING

OSTRICH meat went on sale nationwide for the first time yesterday with Tesco stocking it in more than 300 stores. Spurred on by a successful buffalo meat promotion, the supermarket chain is giving customers the chance to sample this low-fat, high-protein alternative to beef.

At £7.99 for two ostrich steaks and £3.99 for two burgers, it is not cheap, but Tesco believes the BSE scare and the growing market for exotic foods will encourage buyers. Announced promotions include:

Asda: diced turkey thigh £2.40 kg, braising steak £3.58 kg, stewing steak £3.38 kg, Jersey new potatoes 44p lb.

Boag's: whole chicken (2.3kg) £4.39, boneless pork chops £5.42 kg, Cathedral City mature cheddar £2.69 lb, tomatoes 49p lb.

Co-op: New Zealand lamb chops £6.49 kg, whole chicken (1.8kg) £3.89, plaice £6.99 kg, thin sliced honey roast ham £1.39 for 227g.

Harrods: marinated haunch of Scotch venison £3.49 for 100g, three-bean salad 75p for 100g, frankfurter and potato salad baps £1.60 each.

Iceland: southern fried chicken £2.59 for 794g, mushroom and garlic-filled chicken £1.49 for two, lemon chicken £2.29 for 160g, crunchy fish sticks £1.49 for 24, breaded cod fillets £1.99 for 600g.

Marks & Spencer: New Zealand lamb leg knuckle £4.99 kg, two Caledonian salmon fillets (283g) £3.99, four Sweetheart tomatoes £1.19.

Morrisons: cod steaks £4.38 kg, whole salmon £4.38 kg, salmon steaks £5.04 kg, dwarf beans 59p for 200g, Golden Delicious apples 29p lb.

Safeway: frying steak £6.39 a kg, super chicken (2.27kg) £4.99, honey roast turkey 99p for 4 lb, Lincolnshire pork sausages £1.19 lb, green peppers 84p lb, broccoli 59p lb.

Sainsbury's: salmon steaks £7.50 kg, honey roast waffle thin ham £1.59 for 400g, English matured cheddar £3.85 kg, red peppers £1.29 lb.

Somerfield: pork loin chops £3.65 kg, salmon steaks £7.27 kg, fillet steak £16.05 kg, Quorn mince £1.39 for 350g, prawn coleslaw 72p for 250g.

Tesco: turkey steaks £5.95 kg, topside of beef £4.99 kg, salmon joints £2.95 lb, asparagus £1.99 bundle, Valencia oranges £1.89 for 1.5kg.

Waitrose: prime mince 99p for 500g, British braising steak £3.99 kg, Jersey new potatoes 49p lb, baking potatoes 35p lb, sweetcorn 99p for two, chicory 79p pack, Royal Gala apples 49p lb.

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£6,000	£938.04	£32,689.92	13.8%
£7,000	£1,094.38	£38,138.24	13.8%
£8,000	£1,250.72	£43,586.56	13.8%
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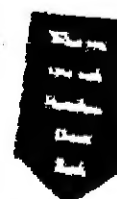


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# Nolan criticises 'interference' from Whitehall

**By NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT**

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Dr. Darius Thwaite

Consultant Psychiatrist Park Hill House Harrogate North Yorkshire

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*Darius Thwaite*

Dr Darius Thwaite.



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## RSC goes west with base in Plymouth

By Russell Jenkins

THE Royal Shakespeare Company is to bring down the curtain at its London base for six months each year and increase its presence in the regions with a new Plymouth residency and touring company.

The RSC will put on its full repertoire at Plymouth's three main theatres throughout November before its truncated annual season at the capital's Barbican Theatre.

Adrian Noble, artistic director of the RSC, said it was an historic day for the company, but admitted: "The window of opportunity to see RSC productions in London is much less than it used to be."

He said that the renewed emphasis on the regions would mean "slightly fewer" productions in London, leading to an unspecified number of job losses and other changes. "We are looking forward to a whole new chapter in the history of the company. We were acutely aware not only of a national gain but also, to some degree, of loss, especially in London."

Mr Noble estimated that the company would stage two or three fewer productions at the Barbican each year. He emphasised, however, that this had nothing to do with declining audiences in the West End. Audiences had risen every year since he took the helm in 1991, with the exception of last year when seat occupancy fell to 73 per cent.

The RSC pioneered winter residencies in the regions more than 20 years ago when it established a base in Newcastle upon Tyne. The North East has since become the company's recognised third home. Plymouth was one of 14 bids to attract the RSC repertoire, winning out over Cardiff and Norwich.

Chris Mavin, the chairman of Plymouth City Council's leisure services committee, said: "It makes us the cultural centre of the region and offers a tremendous opportunity both culturally and educationally."

Grahame Long, of South West Arts, said: "This is a residency for the region, far more than a residency for Plymouth."

## RAF mother wins £10,000 for being split from baby

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

AN RAF servicewoman who was separated from her four-month-old baby and posted to a base 300 miles away when she returned from maternity leave was awarded £10,000 compensation yesterday.

An industrial tribunal heard that Caroline Vine, 27, pleaded to remain at RAF Coltishall, in Norfolk, where she and her husband were serving, but was told she must put her job before her baby and was sent to live in single women's accommodation at RAF St Athan, near Cardiff.

She had to leave Marcus, now 15 months, to be cared for by her husband Saul, 28, and a nanny. She experienced such stress and slept so badly that an RAF psychiatrist diagnosed her as suffering from separation anxiety. She claimed sexual discrimination after leaving the service in October last year.

Her victory has opened the possibility of a new round of compensation claims against the Ministry of Defence. It has already paid out more than £50 million to servicewomen who were sacked after becoming pregnant in breach of European sex discrimination legislation.

All servicewomen who have babies are entitled to return to their jobs after maternity leave, but under RAF rules they can be given a new posting at any time. Andrew Proctor, Mrs Vine's solicitor,

said: "This will have implications for other women in the Armed Forces who have also been discriminated against. The only hope is that now the RAF will bow to pressure and drop its outdated policy."

Mrs Vine, who was an electrical engineer servicing Jaguar aircraft, told her superiors that she was pregnant in 1994. During 7½ months of maternity leave and holiday, she was placed, for adminis-



The base in Norfolk where Mrs Vine worked

trative purposes, in a category referred to as the non-effective posting group.

She said yesterday: "This group includes personnel serving a prison sentence, those who have gone absent without leave and others who are ill. When I returned to work, I was treated as the lowest priority."

Mr Proctor said that although all RAF personnel knew they could be posted, Mrs Vine had expected to be at Coltishall for four or five years, which was the normal posting. Yet she had been

there for only 18 months when she was offered St Athan or Lossiemouth, in Grampian — even further away.

She was able to make the five-hour car journey between St Athan and Coltishall only at weekends, and said that she lost her maternal bonding with her son. "Whenever I tried to pick him up, he cried and only stopped crying when my husband took him. I can't tell you how upsetting that was," she said.

After a month at St Athan, she was put on sick leave and returned to Coltishall when it was confirmed that she was suffering from separation anxiety. Her welfare officer at St Athan tried earlier to get her relocated to Coltishall on compassionate grounds. "But I didn't qualify," Mrs Vine said.

Mrs Vine, who now works as a civil servant near Coltishall, told the tribunal in Norwich: "The pressure on me brought about by the separation was unbearable and I decided, with immense sadness, reluctance and anger, that I would have to apply for early voluntary release. Had I known that I would have to move away from my home and family I would not have become pregnant."

She had to pay £350 for leaving the RAF three years before the end of her 12-year contract. Squadron Leader Ben



Saul and Caroline Vine with Marcus. Mrs Vine said she lost her bond with him

Waterfield, from the RAF Personnel Management Centre in Gloucester, told the tribunal that recruits knew they could be moved from base to base. "The needs of the RAF must take priority over personal needs," he said.

Flight Lieutenant William Craddock, deputy chief clerk at RAF Coltishall, said: "When females declare their pregnan-

cy they are told that they could be posted."

Christopher Ash, chairman of the tribunal panel, said: "We are quite satisfied that if Mrs Vine had not been a woman and had not become pregnant, she would not have been posted. We hope the RAF will at least consider its procedures and take steps to ensure that women returning from

maternity leave are not transferred as a matter of administrative convenience."

The RAF told the tribunal that only 65 per cent of women returning from maternity leave went back to their original bases. A spokesman for the MoD said: "We are taking legal advice on the implications of the decision, including the possibility of an appeal."

## Bureaucrats relent over 'inseparable' nursing home couple



Bill and May Hill have been together for 71 years

AN ELDERLY couple who were to be separated by bureaucracy after 71 years together have been given a reprieve yesterday. After a public outcry, social services chiefs ordered that Bill and May Hill should be allowed to stay together.

The couple, both aged 85, were childhood sweethearts and have been inseparable since they were 14. But under strict spending guidelines, Mrs Hill would have had to move from the residential home in which they were living. While Mr Hill quali-

fied for council funding for his place at the £2,000-a-month private nursing home, his wife did not.

The Hills moved into The Heathers, in Peterborough, five months ago and spent their meagre savings on providing care for themselves. When their money began to run out, the council carried out fitness tests and deemed that only Mr Hill, a retired railwayman, was ill enough to qualify for help.

Yesterday, however, Janet Jones, a spokeswoman for Cambridgeshire County

Council, said: "The couple will not be split up. We understand that Mrs Hill's condition has deteriorated since she was assessed several months ago and we are currently carrying out a further assessment."

She added: "Social services departments across the country daily face the dilemma of providing services for couples where the needs of husbands and wives are not the same. We try to ensure wherever possible that care services are provided in such a way as to avoid couples being split up."

denied the original decision to separate the couple as appalling, welcomed the reversal. Margaret McLellan, a spokeswoman, said: "It's good for this couple because of the media attention. But there are a lot of people out there that we don't know about who will be parted. We have to look more carefully at how long-term care is evaluated, assessed and paid for."

Staff at The Heathers were delighted for the Hills. "We've been told the good news and everyone is very happy about it," a spokesman said.

## Teenager denies killing head

A boy aged 15, accused of murdering the headmaster Philip Lawrence in northwest London last December, appeared briefly at the Old Bailey yesterday to deny the charge.

The boy and a 15-year-old co-defendant also denied conspiracy to cause grievous bodily harm and wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm to a schoolboy. The case has been set to begin in September.

## Tonypany better

The former Speaker, Viscount Tonypany, 87, was recovering at his home in Cardiff after leaving St Thomas's Hospital in London, where he was treated for pneumonia. "I'm feeling much better and I am making progress," he said.

## Judge halts trial

The trial at Manchester Crown Court of a vicar and his churchwarden for alleged theft was halted after Judge Humphries heard legal argument. He ordered a new trial in September of the Rev Stephen Ashton and Cameron Luke, who deny the charges.

## Spanish honour

The historian Sir John Elliott has won this year's Prince of Asturias prize for social sciences, one of Spain's most prestigious awards. The former Oxford professor was praised in particular for dismantling the stereotypes and clichés of Spanish history.

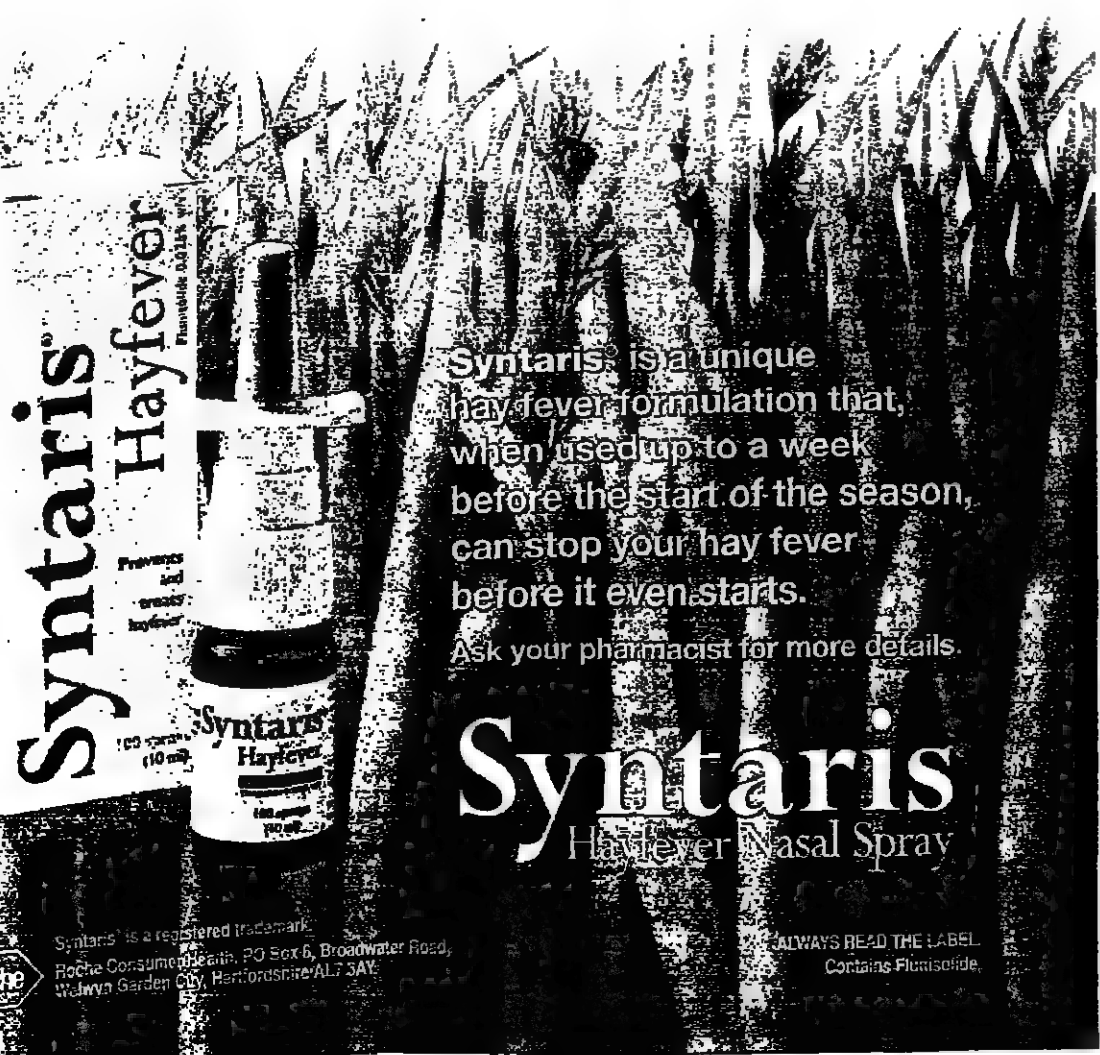
## Bomber returns

Britain's last flying Lancaster bomber is back in service after an overhaul. The City of Lincoln, based at RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire, has been fitted with a new main spar — never attempted on the Lancaster — and is ready for the display season.

## Global account

The total amount of cash in circulation worldwide is £1,500 billion, or £273 for each person, according to the science magazine *Focus*, which made the calculation in response to a reader's letter. In Britain the figure is £23.4 billion, or £400 each.

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# Scientists call for one-third cut in salt consumption

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

BRITONS are eating too much salt but the food industry and the Government are refusing to act to protect their health, experts say.

Many processed foods contain as much salt as seawater. The amount in the average British diet is one of the main causes of high blood pressure and must be reduced from 9 grams a day to 6g, they say.

Findings from a study of people in 32 countries shows that a salty diet accelerates the rise in blood pressure that occurs naturally with age. High blood pressure is the main cause of strokes and a cause of heart attacks.

The results, from the Intersalt study, strengthen findings published in 1988, and scientists

say the evidence implicating salt is "overwhelming".

However, the US Salt Institute, the trade organisation of salt producers in America, says the data and analysis are flawed. It says the findings show "no significant relation between... salt excretion and the rate of increase in blood pressure with age".

In a series of articles in the *British Medical Journal*, scientists criticise these claims and accuse the British Government and the salt industry of failing to protect the public. Consumers cannot achieve the recommended one-third reduction in consumption on their own because 80 per cent of salt consumed is hidden in processed foods. Malcolm Law, of

the Wolfson Institute of Preventive Medicine, in London, accused the Salt Institute of confusing doctors and the public over the issue. "Excess dietary salt is a serious public health hazard. A rise in blood pressure is not an inevitable consequence of ageing."

Professor Graham MacGregor, head of cardiovascular medicine at St George's Hospital Medical School, south London, says the UK Salt Manufacturers Association and parts of the food industry "have conducted a sustained and largely successful campaign" to discredit research linking salt and blood pressure. Professor MacGregor, who heads a group seeking consensus with industry on reducing salt levels, adds: "Many salt addicts may not realise that many of the processed foods they consume contain a salt concentration approaching or equal to that of seawater."

The British Government, at least in relation to salt, seems to have dissociated itself from its social responsibility for the welfare of its citizens.

In 1994, a report on heart disease commissioned by the Government recommended the reduction of one third in the average salt intake. However, Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, while endorsing the report's other recommendations, cast doubt on the evidence linking salt and blood pressure and emphasised that it was not government policy.



Dr Jean Smellie saw Fredericka Argheban too late to prevent serious scarring of the kidneys as a baby

## Specialist urges simple test on sick children to prevent permanent damage to kidneys

By JEREMY LAURANCE

CHILDREN with kidney infections are being misdiagnosed and left with permanently scarred organs and the threat of renal failure in adult life, a specialist said yesterday. One in 20 girls and one in 50 boys will have a urinary tract infection by the time they leave school, but doctors often fail to make the necessary tests.

In more than a third of cases the problem is caused by a leaky valve in the bladder causing a backflow to the kidney. The condition, called a reflux, triggers inflammation which leads to scarring and permanent damage to the kidney. More than a third of adults needing kidney transplants or dialysis in western Europe have scarred kidneys from childhood.

Dr Jean Smellie, emeritus consultant

at University College Hospital, London, who has studied kidney problems in children for 30 years, said any child with a fever lasting more than 24 hours should have a urine test to check for the presence of infection.

Launching a campaign by the National Kidney Research Fund, which has supported her work, Dr Smellie said: "Taking a urine sample should be part of the examination of a sick child. In young children these infections are often missed because they don't produce the symptoms you expect. They may have a fever, tummy ache, sickness or diarrhoea."

Many doctors were reluctant to investigate the cause of the infection, involving X-rays of the kidneys and the introduction of a radio-opaque dye, because they did not wish to expose children to radiation. But when reflux was the cause,

treatment was urgent. "Even a minor leak of the valve allows infected urine in the bladder to reach the kidney, setting up an infection which can be followed by permanent scarring if effective treatment is not started quickly," Dr Smellie said.

Fredericka Argheban, aged eight, suffered ten urinary tract infections in her first year. Each time she was treated with high doses of antibiotics and got better only to succumb again when the drugs were stopped.

She was eventually seen by Dr Smellie, who diagnosed reflux and found that both her kidneys were badly scarred. Her mother, Amanda, 33, said: "Now she will have to have annual checks for the rest of her life. I feel angry because she could have been saved the kidney damage. The condition is so easy to treat with medicine and regular drinks."

## Doctors condemn NHS trust financing

By A STAFF REPORTER

PATIENTS' lives are being threatened by an NHS accounting system that punishes the most successful hospitals, according to senior consultants. They say the situation is so serious that care is nearing meltdown.

Flagship hospital trusts are reportedly seeing their once-efficient departments slowly destroyed by government requirements for trusts to make year-on-year efficiency savings of 3 per cent. But they are not allowed to use any surplus to increase capital resources, such as beds, in the following financial year. Instead they have to use them to cut prices.

The result is a destructive vicious circle, the consultants say. A trust takes on more patients to improve efficiency but then has to cut prices, bringing in more patients. Since there are no more beds, the only way to resolve the situation is to cut the time patients spend in hospital.

Christopher Adams, a consultant neurosurgeon in Oxford who first drew attention to the danger last December, said at a news conference organised by the British Medical Association yesterday: "It gets to the stage where the length of stay is so short you are churning patients out. These rules must be changed."

Mr Adams, who resigned as head of the neurosurgery unit at the Radcliffe Infirmary in protest at his department's dropping standards, said such difficulties were putting patients' lives in danger.

Two orthopaedic consultants, Charles Court-Brown, from the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, and Tim Bunker, of the Princess Elizabeth Orthopaedic Hospital in Exeter, voiced similar concerns in the *British Medical Journal* yesterday.

James Johnson, chairman of the BMA's consultants' committee, said the NHS was approaching meltdown. "Everybody in the country knows that on average the pound in your pocket probably buys you 3 per cent less a year than it did before. But the Alice in Wonderland world of the NHS says that the pound in your pocket buys you 3 per cent more. This is bunk."

### DANGER HIDDEN IN PROCESSED FOOD

Six grams of salt, the recommended maximum daily amount, is less than a heaped teaspoonful. Two rounds of Marks & Spencer ham and cheese sandwiches would exceed the limit. Eighty per cent of our salt intake is hidden in processed foods. A survey by the Food Commission showed the high levels of salt in supermarket and take-away foods: someone on a diet of bacon, crisps, olives and Marmite would exceed the daily salt limit by many times. Salt (sodium chloride) is our main source of sodium. It accounts for 40 per cent of the weight of the salt molecule. This can lead to confusion over food label information.

Food	Quantity	Salt gms
M&S ham & cheese sandwich	one round	3.5
Wendyburger	4-pounder with cheese	3.7
Fish cakes	two, 5.5oz each	2.6
Pork pie	5.5oz	2.6
McDonald's burger	Big Mac and large fries	3.0
All-bran cereal	one bowl	50
Wholemeal bread	two thick slices	1.2
Cottage cheese	small tub, 4oz	1.3
Hell's baked beans	small tin, 6oz	2.0

## Why pregnant shepherdesses should give lambing time a wide berth

LIFE as a shepherdess is not all that Marie Antoinette believed it to be, particularly if the shepherdess is pregnant at lambing time. However, recent research has shown that the illness caught from sheep which leads to miscarriage, or death of the baby in utero, can be counteracted by speedy diagnosis and immediate treatment with the appropriate antibiotics.

The cause of the trouble in sheep, and in the women looking after them, is a

chlamydial infection. There are many types of chlamydia, one of which is the most common cause of pelvic inflammatory disease in women and accounts for much of the infertility secondary to blocked Fallopian tubes.

Another variety of chlamydia has severely depleted the koala bear population of Australia and yet another type of the organism causes psittacosis, the unpleasant form of pneumonia spread by parrots and budgerigars. It has been



### MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

known that a comparatively frequent cause of abortion in sheep was the same organism, *Chlamydia psittaci*, and warnings were issued by the

Ministry of Health, and reinforced on *The Archers*, that pregnant women should avoid helping with lambing and stay well away if there was

any question that their eyes might be suffering from ovine chlamydiosis.

*Chlamydia psittaci* must occasionally also be caught by men and be a cause of unexplained pneumonia in shepherds, but the greater danger is to pregnant women. The *British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* has recently

reported on a case in which a pregnant shepherdess was given antibiotics — a fortnight of erythromycin — at the eleventh week of pregnancy

when she developed a dry cough and severe headaches. Blood tests confirmed her doctor's diagnosis of a chlamydial infection and the baby was healthy when delivered at the normal time.

Any pregnant woman who has been in contact with sheep, and develops a dry cough and feverish illness, needs an immediate blood test to exclude chlamydia. If positive, they should be treated with at least a fortnight's course of antibiotics.



Lambing season may hold hidden dangers

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# Kidnappings undermine Papua gold-diggers

By DAVID WATTS

THE Indonesian special forces' deft rescue of four British hostages from the hands of Papuan guerrillas is a victory for both sides.

Indonesia has been able to overcome some of its negative international image with a restrained military operation, but the hostages' endorsement of their captors' view of how Jakarta is destroying their prehistoric inheritance is precisely what the Free Papua Movement (OPM) had hoped to achieve.

The Papuans have been forced out of their mountain homes through the activities of a larger-than-life American, Jim-Bob Moffett, chairman of the parent company, Freeport McMoran of New Orleans, which is part British-owned. It operates one of the world's largest copper and gold mines in the mountains of Irian Jaya on ancestral lands that the Papuans have inhabited for thousands of years.

The mine is 7,000ft up in the mountains that form the spine of the island which Irian Jaya shares with Papua New Guinea.

Using huge mechanical shovels the firm has gouged away the mountain top. The one billion tonnes of copper and gold ore being harvested from the mountain constitutes the second richest seam of such material in the world, earning huge profits for Freeport/MTZ.

Mr Moffett, who declares he is in a "new Cold War" with

The local tribes complain that, as well as being driven off their lands, the mining operations cause pollution through the run-off from the mine and are changing the climate, affecting a unique local geographic phenomenon: a glacier. They say there is a virtual system of apartheid in operation which excludes them from work at the

and academics back home are less impressed and the University of Austin, Texas, and the Catholic Loyola University in New Orleans have both been critical of the company, resulting in threats of legal action.

The British hostages, members of the Lorentz 95 expedition from Cambridge University, were there to work with the local tribes in learning how they have lived with and exploited nature, without doing it serious damage, over the centuries.

The OPM has its roots in the annexation of the territory by the Indonesians in 1963. At that time the Irianese wanted to ally themselves with neighbouring Papua New Guinea, but the so-called "Act of Free Choice" was anything but and Jakarta took over the territory against the people's wishes.

The OPM claims that 43,000 Papuans have lost their lives in clashes with the Government since 1977. The Papuans claim that 2,000 Indonesian soldiers have been killed in the battle for tribal lands.

**¶ The tribes complain that mining pollution affects a unique local geographic phenomenon: a glacier ¶**

his critics in non-governmental organisations, says of Freeport/MTZ: "This is not a job for us, it's a religion. The NGO situation is something we're going to have to deal with." He and his workers live in what is virtually an extra-territorial stretch of the United States enjoying the close protection of the Indonesian military, which often uses the company's aircraft.

mine and in which the Indonesian Government is resettling thousands of families from other parts of the archipelago.

Mr Moffett's response to the pollution charge has been to set up a laboratory dedicated to the maintenance and regeneration of the local environment. The scale of pollution caused by the mine, he claims, "is equivalent to me pissing in the Arafura Sea". Students



British hostages Daniel Start, left, and William Oates relax on the Indonesian Air Force jet during its flight to Jakarta yesterday after they were plucked to safety from a rebel camp during a seven-hour battle in the jungle



Barchevsky: agreed to disagree with China

## China and US fire shots in trade war

FROM JONATHAN MERSKY IN HONG KONG

AMERICA and China have dragged their economic cannons to the front line in a multibillion-dollar trade war, but after an exchange of verbal blasts are expected, as usual, to resume normal business.

The feeble agreement last week on China's sale of nuclear components points the way to an equally empty deal on protection of intellectual property. After months of negotiations, the formidable women who represent the two sides - Wu Yi, China's Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation, and Charlene Barshevsy, Acting US Trade Representative - agreed to disagree in Peking on Wednesday. Within minutes, each side had tabled its threatened sanctions.

Each package amounts to about \$2 billion (£1.2 billion). Washington is threatening punishment for what it claims is Peking's failure to honour last year's agreement to shut more than 30 factories churning out pirated CDs, computer software, and video and laser films.

The US list includes textiles, largely made in southern China where Hong Kong manufacturers own many of the factories, coffee machines and telephones, jewellery, medical gloves and sporting goods. Winston Lord, the US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia, said in Tokyo yesterday that if Washington had retreated, domestic agitation to withdraw China's most favoured nation trading status would have risen, and Peking would have lost respect for the US. Peking is retaliating for what it alleges is unfair US pressure. A spokesman said China "has done a better job than any other country" in protecting intellectual rights.

China's sanctions list imposes 100 per cent tariffs on US grain and many other products. Peking also threatens to suspend planned US enterprises, including the manufacture of cars.

## Diary tells of family starvation in Tokyo

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

THE diary of an elderly woman who starved to death with her bedridden son in the heart of Tokyo has prompted criticism of the flawed welfare system in one of the world's most affluent societies.

The 77-year-old woman and her invalid son, 41, whose names have not been released, had been dead for nearly a month when police discovered their bodies on April 27. Police found no food apart from some tea leaves in the tiny flat - a stone's throw from a glittering shopping complex called the Sunshine Building - and no money except for 28 yen (40p).

They found a notepad, however, with a harrowing account of the pair's final weeks, excerpts of which were obtained by the *Asahi Shinbun* newspaper. In the first entry, dated January 1, 1996, the mother wrote: "We are grateful for being able to greet the new year. We can't pay the rent for February and we have no money to live on. We spend every day worrying about what will become of us. I am worried that the gas and electricity will soon be cut off."

"January 11, 1996: I haven't taken a bath for ten years, my son for 15 years. I haven't done any laundry for seven or eight years."

"March 8, 1996: For a long time my son and I have been living on pieces of biscuit. We are about to run out of food."

The last entry reads: "March 11, 1996: We finally ran out of food this morning. From tomorrow we will have nothing to put in our mouths. I wonder if we will be able to keep on drinking tea each day... I am worried my child may die before me. Please let us die together."

Police said the woman, who was widowed four years ago, lived on a state pension of 100,000 yen (£625) a month, out of which she paid 85,000 yen (£531) in rent.

Welfare authorities say the pair would have qualified for benefits, but the mother feared they would have to move into cheaper accommodation as required by the stringent rules governing welfare payments. "I would rather die free," she wrote.

Ownership of a car by a recipient is rarely allowed, and some authorities insist that beneficiaries get rid of their television sets. Inspections are carried out to ensure that a recipient is not consuming beer or other alcohol, or otherwise enjoying life.

"Japan is completely underdeveloped as far as welfare is concerned," said Ryu Otomo, a political analyst. "This is our dark little secret."

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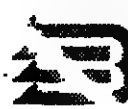
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# Yeltsin to end call-up in bid for youth vote

By THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Yeltsin played an electoral ace yesterday by promising to abolish conscription in the Russian Army by 2000 and announcing that, with immediate effect, only volunteers would be sent to serve in Chechnia.

The move was a deliberate attempt to woo the youth vote in the run-up to the presidential election on June 16. He said soldiers serving in "conflict areas" would do so only on contract and on a voluntary basis, saving at a stroke thousands of young people from serving in Chechnia and Tajikistan.

In another nod to the middle-class electorate, Mr Yeltsin also signed a decree phasing out capital punishment in line with Russia's admission to the Council of Europe.

All three decrees were part of an increasingly dynamic strategy to be all things to all parts of the electorate. Mr Yeltsin has already appealed to traditional left-wing voters by signing a treaty of economic integration between Russia and Belorussia and promising

to pay workers overdue wages. Gennadi Zyuganov, his main challenger, by contrast, is fenced in by his narrow ideological commitments as head of the Communist Party.

The decrees, however, seemed more about political theatre than reality. The Yeltsin Government has supposedly been pursuing a strategy of switching from conscript to contract armed forces for several years. Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, announced a three-stage programme: a period of stock-taking until the end of 1994, then modernisation of the armed forces, developing into a predominantly volunteer force, with recruits signing up for three or more years.

This programme, however, has run into the ground. There has been little modernisation, the restructuring of the airborne and rapid deployment forces has been slow and piecemeal, and the number of contract troops is believed to be dropping, not increasing.

Dr Mark Galeotti, a Rus-

sian military expert, said Mr Yeltsin would not be able to afford a professional army. The main aim of the decrees, he said, was to woo Russian mothers with teenage sons who feared they would be conscripted to serve in Chechnia, where there are about 40,000 troops, mainly Interior Ministry forces.

Although previous promises not to send conscripts as peacekeepers to places such as Moldova have been broken, Mr Yeltsin has clearly decided it is vital to mobilise the youth vote. An opinion poll this week found only 29 per cent of Russian 18 to 24-year-olds intended to vote for Mr Yeltsin, while 8 per cent would vote for Mr Zyuganov; the vast majority were undecided.

Hatred of military service is the one issue that unites all youth and conscription rates in some towns are as low as 20 per cent. Many teenagers slash their wrists, drink poison or feign schizophrenia to avoid the army. To starvation rations and routine bullying has been added the prospect of

becoming, in the Russian phrase, "cannon meat" in Chechnia. The slaughter of a division of conscripts from the city of Samara on New Year's Eve 1994 in Grozny, the Chechen capital, caused widespread anger and dented Mr Yeltsin's popularity at the time.

Mr Zyuganov will be hard-pressed to respond to the policy initiatives. He was one of the sponsors of a law in the Duma last year that prolonged military service from 18 months to two years, and his older, old-fashioned electorate will not look so kindly on the end of conscription.

The Russian armed forces are supposed to be about 1.5 million strong, but the figure is probably closer to one million, three-quarters of whom are in the army, although the General Staff is continually lobbying the President to increase numbers. About half the soldiers fighting in Chechnia are on contract and earning salaries of £500 a month, high by Russian standards.



A Yeltsin poster goes up in Moscow yesterday as the presidential election campaign gets into full swing

## Orthodox Church backs President's return to power

By THOMAS DE WAAL

THE head of the Russian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Aleksii II, has become the latest public figure to endorse Boris Yeltsin's re-election bid as all the power of the state machine is mobilised in his favour.

On a visit to the Urals city of Perm, reported in the newspaper *Segodnya* yesterday, the patriarch said he had instructed church parishes round the country to tell their congregations to "take part in the elections and support those in power".

The patriarch, who has good relations with Mr Yeltsin, similar to the old links between the church and Tsar, said a Communist victory would be a disaster for the church. "We have to explain what the church had to live through under the Soviet regime and what religious freedom it enjoys now."

An attempt earlier this week by Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader and main challenger to Mr Yeltsin, to play the religious card, flopped. He visited one of Russia's most famous monasteries at Diveyevo but was rebuffed by the abbot and looked embarrassed when he failed to kiss a holy relic.

Endorsement from on high is only one sign among many

that things are moving in Mr Yeltsin's favour. Even more critically, one month before the first round of the elections on June 16, more and more election watchers are saying that he is planning to win anyway, by fair means or foul.

"I believe that Yeltsin will remain in his office either by the results of honest elections, or by falsification of the elections or without any elections," Nikolai Petrov, a political analyst with the Carnegie Endowment in Moscow, said last night. "But in any case Yeltsin will remain in place."

The President's advantage is particularly evident in the media, where he now effectively controls all six main Russian television channels, the essential propaganda weapon in a country of 11 time zones. The other ten candidates on the ballot for June 16 finally gained a small foothold on the airwaves this week with the allocation of free ten-minute slots on radio and television.

In his first outing on air Mr Zyuganov was shown in an unprofessional clip discussing his beliefs on a park bench with a woman journalist. "Lies have become the main method for the current authorities' existence," a rattled Mr Zyuganov said.

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**FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON**

"Mrs Dole is his number one adviser and best friend and she was 100 per cent supportive," said Scott Reed, Mr Dole's campaign manager and the only other person privy to the decision besides Haley Barbour, the chairman of the Republican Party.

Initial reaction to the move was overwhelmingly favourable. A snap CBS poll showed 60 per cent support for Mr Dole's decision to devote all his energy to his presidential bid. Editorialists praised his uncharacteristic boldness, saying he had earned a second look. Republicans, previously in despair, marvelled at the cleanness of his break from an unpopular and paralysed Congress.

The big question is whether Mr. Dole, having so dramatically grabbed the nation's

**Washington:** A well-oiled campaign to nominate Trent Lott, the Republican majority whip from Mississippi who is Bob Dole's deputy in the Senate, as the new majority leader, moved into overdrive yesterday (Tom Rhodes writes). Several observers said he was already within reach of claiming a majority of the 53-strong Republi-

"I don't think it's cut and dried," said Phil Gramm, the Texas senator, "but I think it's cut." The departure of Mr. Dole as majority leader is expected, at least in the short term, to ease the partisan logjam in the Senate.

Mr Dole can survive only by bending the rules to their limits. The Republican Party yesterday announced a \$20 million advertising campaign that will attack Mr Clinton but cannot explicitly promote Mr Dole.

Mr. Dole, a self-professed "doer, not talker", will now try to be the opposite. Aides predict a dramatic improvement in his uninspiring campaign speeches. They say that, for the first time, he will be able to prepare properly and replace legislative jargon with plain talk. He has agreed to follow texts, employ a speech coach and use a teleprompter.

**Leading article, page 21**



**FROM QUENTIN LETTS  
IN NEW YORK**

**A RETIRED** Episcopal (Anglican) bishop in America, who faced charges of heresy for knowingly ordaining a homosexual, has been cleared of violating "core doctrines".

The Rt Rev Walter Righier, former Bishop of Iowa, appeared before an ecclesiastical court in Delaware. Wednesday's ruling came after more than two months of delibera-

Had the decision gone against him, Bishop Righter would have been tried for heresy, marking only the second time that such a charge would have been laid in the 206-year history of the church of 2.4 million members.

Bishop Righter was aware that a 1990 ordinand, Barry Stopfel, was a homosexual

The court ruled that "there is no core doctrine prohibiting the ordination of a non-celibate, homosexual person living in a faithful and committed sexual relationship with a person of the same sex". The verdict may lead to a formal debate about homosexual ordination at the church's next

general convention (synod). Bishop Righter, himself happily married, is an ally of the controversial Bishop John Spong of Newark, New Jersey, who has often spoken in support of gay Christians.

The Stoppel ordination was partly undertaken as a test case, and Bishop Righter faced his grave charge philosophically. "I hope the general convention will now have a chance to talk this through," he said after the verdict.

**Pretoria:** Black and white students, throwing rocks and wielding clubs, clashed yesterday at a Pretoria college in a second day of racial violence (Inigo Gilmore writes).

Police fired rubber bullets and teargas to break up battles on the campus that put seven black students in hospital. The whites attacked after chants of "Kill the Boer" by black students.

**Los Angeles:** Sir Anthony Hopkins has become the first non-American to win the prestigious Spencer Tracy Award (Giles Whittell writes). He received the honour at the University of California in Los Angeles in recognition of an acting career spanning 30 years.

**Miami:** The Dominican Republic voted as Joaquín Balaguer, 89, quit after ruling autocratically for 22 of the past 30 years (David Adams writes). The favourite is one of the blind Señor Balaguer's chief rivals, José Francisco Peña Gómez, of the Dominican Revolutionary Party.

**Kigali:** Hutus with assault rifles and machetes hunted down hundreds of Tutsis who had sought refuge in a Zairean church, and slaughtered at least a dozen of them, a United Nations official said. About 130 other Zairean Tutsis who had been hiding in the church were reported missing. (AP)

**Tarnogsky Gorodok, Russia.** Drunks, some sent by their desperate wives, are flocking to a spring in this village in northwestern Russia's Vologda region because the water is said to cure hangovers and allegedly make some drinkers teetotal. Tass reported. (AP)

**By Peter Almond**

**FORTY-ONE** British troops were injured yesterday, one seriously, in the largest allied mass parachute drop since Operation Market Garden over The Netherlands in 1944.

The drop involved 1,700 British troops and nearly 4,000 Americans over Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and marked one of the highlights of Exercise Purple Star, the largest Anglo-American air-land exercise for 50 years. Thirty-eight American

troops were also hurt in the night drop, a flatter landing ground accounting for their proportionately lighter casualties. Most of the injuries were broken bones. The seriously injured British soldier had a shattered pelvis.

Military officials were delighted with the outcome because statistically they had expected more casualties — 4 per cent of their force. Parachute drops at night from 850ft. are among the most dangerous military activities.

However, the death of 14 American

Marines in a collision between two helicopters earlier in the exercise prompted extra caution for other parts of the air landing. One of the largest helicopter-borne assaults in history, involving 1,000 British and American Marines in a snaking line of 60 helicopters, was

Operation Big Drop III — the invasion of a fictitious country called Kartuna — climaxed nearly a month of field training on military installations along the Atlantic coast. The exercise ends on Sunday.

**AFTER 30 months** of legal bickering, the will of Doris Duke, the tobacco heiress, has been accepted for probate (Quentin Letts in New York writes).

The settlement makes a millionaire of her illiterate butler and clears \$1.2 billion (\$794,000) to be used for the charitable work that Duke intended. A New York court reluctantly agreed to a settlement concocted by lawyers

representing the butler, Bernard Lafferty, and various charities which stood to benefit.

Mr Lafferty, who looked after the ailing Duke in her final years, gets a \$4.5 million lump sum, plus \$500,000 a year for as long as he manages to live.

He was accused of extravagance and alcohol-ringed profligacy after the octogenarian Duke died in October 1993.

naming him as an executor of her will. Friends of Duke accused him of worming his way into her affections, wasting her money, and even plotting to kill her by administering sleeping pills.

The ponytailed Mr Lafferty, 49, has agreed to step down as a trustee of the newly established Duke Foundation, which will help environmental, educational and animal welfare causes.

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Bombay extremist awarded portfolio as new Prime Minister puts together a fragile coalition

# Hindu party militants savour taste of power

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE was sworn in as Prime Minister yesterday, perhaps for the shortest taste of power in Indian history.

A sea of saffron flags, symbols of Hindu militancy, greeted his victory as he acknowledged the cheering crowds. It was a seminal moment for a country rooted in secularism and religious tolerance and now led by a party that cherishes neither.

Mr Vajpayee is not an extremist, but many of those around him are. Yesterday he appointed as one of his ministers a member of Shiv Sena, the militant Bombay political organisation which grew out of a band of strike-breaking hired thugs and is still quasi-military in character. It has an army of men at its disposal called Sainiks, whose ways are familiar to Muslims who have suffered their atrocities.

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led Government must test its strength in a vote of confidence in the Lok Sabha (lower house) by May 31 and its rivals have pledged to topple it. They

ought to be capable of doing so, but in the murky, bribe-prone world of Indian politics the improbable could happen.

Already some of the regional parties that were hostile to the BJP are wavering under pressure from businessmen attracted by the party's policies of selective imports to protect home-produced goods. Mr Vajpayee will tempt regional parties with promises of devolution and a watering down of the Hindutva (Hinduness) philosophy that underpins the BJP's character.

However, Mr Vajpayee is not moving to the Prime Minister's residence on Race Course Road immediately, in case he has to move out again. Last night he promised "clean, sensitive and honest" government and said he would survive the confidence vote. He was asked by President Sharma to form the administration because he was leader of the biggest parliamentary party. The Congress Party and the so-called Third Force, a collection of centre and left-wing groups, remain convinced that they can oust him.

Their alliance is tenuous, however, bonded only by the shared dislike of the BJP. While seeking to present a moderate face, Mr Vajpayee will also need to pander to hardliners in his ranks: he immediately did so by pledging to build a Hindu temple on the site of a 16th-century mosque torn down by Hindu fanatics in December 1992.



Guards of honour watch the ceremony in Delhi yesterday to swear in Atal Behari Vajpayee, the BJP leader, right, as Prime Minister. He faces a confidence vote in two weeks' time

That would be a further insult to Muslims, for whom the demolition represented the greatest single religious atrocity since independence.

Pakistan has made clear its anxiety that a party with such a record runs the country with the largest concentration of Muslims, more than 130 million, after Indonesia. Frank Wisner, the American Ambassador to Delhi,

said yesterday that the United States was prepared to work with the BJP-led Government. The BJP's exploitation of Hinduism, never before hijacked for political purposes, was largely the work of L. K. Advani, the party president and real power in the party.

He toned down his anti-Muslim rhetoric during and before the election campaign but his hardline sentiments

are well established in the party's policies. The astonishing rise of the party in barely a decade reflects the backlash against the hapless Congress Party Government led by P. V. Narasimha Rao from 1991.

Seven of Mr Rao's ministers resigned after being implicated in a massive bribery scandal and Mr Rao was said to have been a beneficiary.

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Seven of Mr Rao's ministers resigned after being implicated in a massive bribery scandal and Mr Rao was said to have been a beneficiary.

## Top ministers named

Delhi: The portfolios of the 11 Cabinet ministers were allocated yesterday after hours of wrangling, senior officials said. The appointments include Jaswant Singh as Finance Minister, Murli Manohar Joshi, a hardline former party president, who becomes Home Minister,

and Sushma Swaraj, who takes on the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. Sikander Bakht, the only BJP Muslim, becomes Minister of Human Development and Resources. Mr Vajpayee had wanted to make him Home Minister, but party members opposed the idea. (Reuters)

## Troops sweep Tiger fighters from last Jaffna stronghold

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

THE Sri Lankan Army yesterday announced the capture of the last rebel-held territory on the northern Jaffna peninsula, completing a spectacular advance against the Tamil Tigers and driving the last of the fighters on to the mainland.

In 12 years of war the separatists have never been in greater disarray. Troops marched into former Tiger strongholds without serious resistance.

The army yesterday entered Point Pedro, a strategic Tiger-held port on the northern coast, the rebels' last important stronghold on the peninsula. The town is a Red Cross food distribution centre for civilians unable to feed themselves because of war.

The troops were backed by helicopter gunships and there was a skirmish with fleeing rebels, but in general the Tigers abandoned their positions without a fight. Point

Pedro was the headquarters of the Sea Tigers, who rammed military vessels with bomb-laden boats.

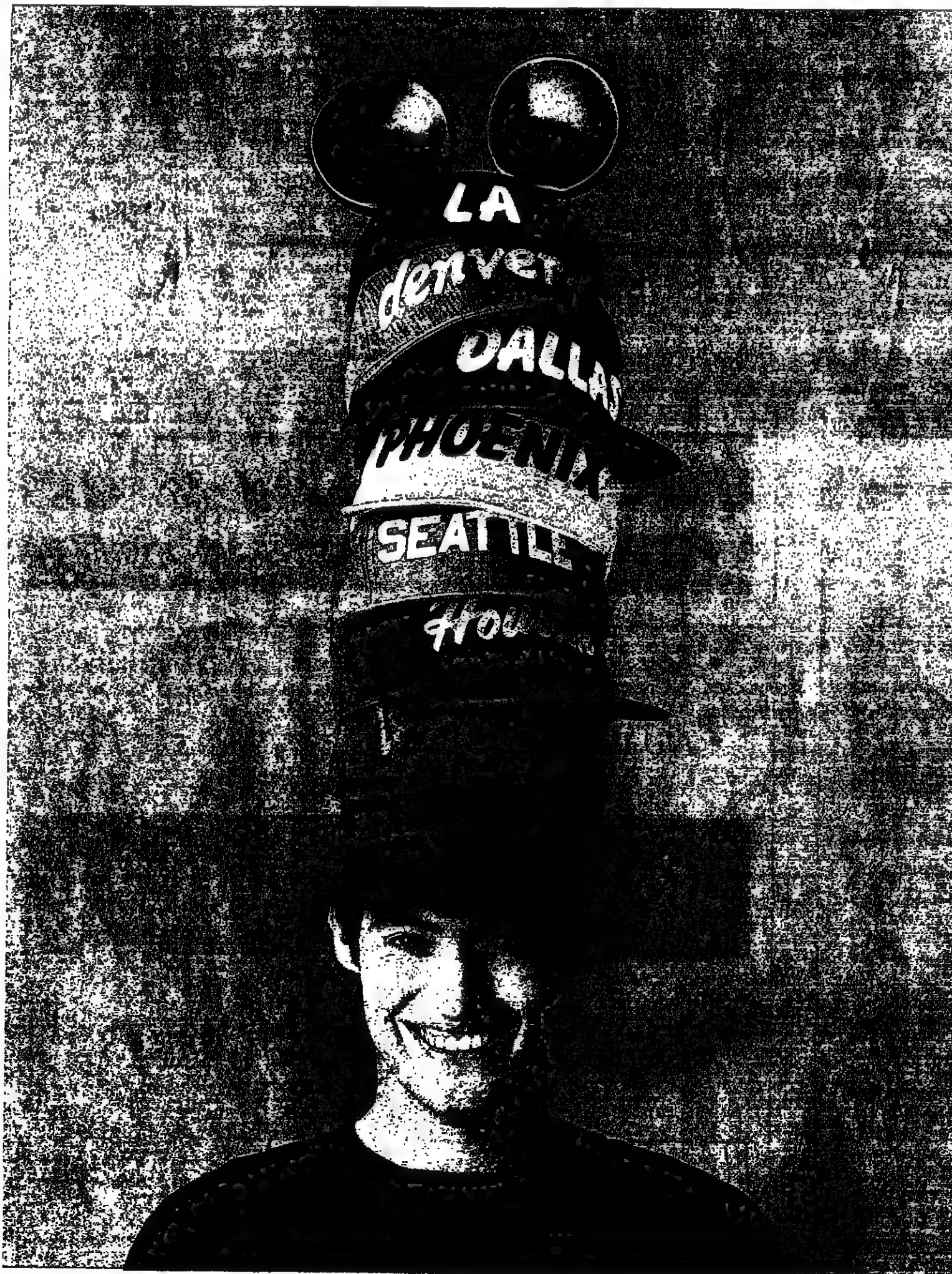
Last December the army captured Jaffna town, the Tigers' headquarters for six years, scattering the fighters across the peninsula and the northern mainland. The Tigers escaped from Jaffna with their arms and equipment, which will be carried to their jungle bases in the northern mainland and to new concentrations in the east.

Point Pedro is the birthplace of Velupillai Prabhakaran, founder and leader of the Tigers, whose death would doubtless lead to the collapse of the rebel force. His whereabouts are unknown. The Government's military offensive is being accompanied by a political drive to give the island's regions, including Tamil-dominated areas, substantial autonomy backed by constitutional

guarantees of non-interference. There appears to be an overwhelming desire by Jaffna Tamils for the war to end. Support for the Tigers may be ebbing.

The Government probably lacks the parliamentary strength to push through its reforms without substantially watering them down. This would be seen by Tamils as the betrayal of a promise of autonomy. Perhaps even more important is the question of whether 300,000 Tamil civilians displaced by the offensive will return home to what are now government-held areas. The Tigers have warned them not to do so.

According to official figures, 250,000 civilians have moved to government areas. If true, this would give the Government an unprecedented opportunity to demonstrate to Tamils that the majority Sinhalese discrimination of the past is over.



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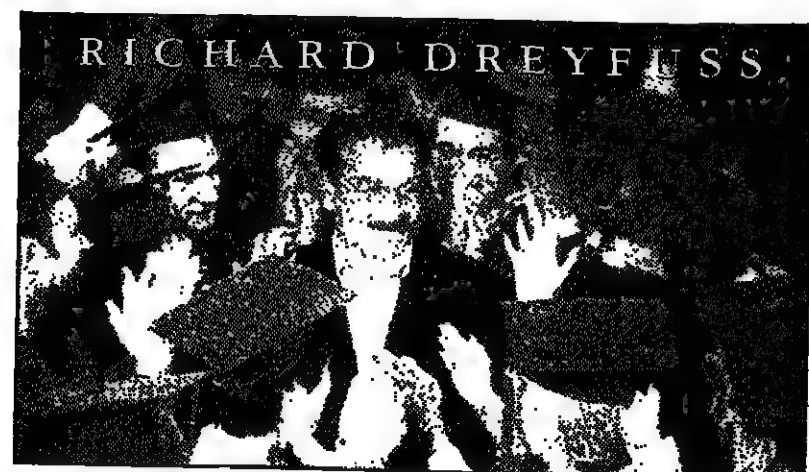
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# Plot to blow up El Al jet triggers airport alert

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER  
IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI ordered a security alert at airports and ports yesterday after it was disclosed that the terrorist with a British passport who was injured in an explosion in an east Jerusalem hotel nearly five weeks ago was a Hezbollah agent planning to destroy an El Al jet in mid-air.

Diplomatic sources said Britain's M16 and Israel's Mossad secret service co-operated closely during the investigation after the April 12 blast in the seedy Lawrence Hotel. Israeli police confirmed that the terrorist was travelling on a passport issued to Andrew Jonathan Charles Newman, a trainee accountant. The passport was stolen while he was in Paris in April 1993.

The discovery that the Iranian-backed Hezbollah terrorist, Hussein Muhammad Mikdad, was using a British travel document has led to concern that other Arab terrorists may be using stolen British passports. "British passports are among the most coveted in the world by

## Injured terrorist with British passport 'carried radio bomb'

terrorists because they command respect," an Israeli security source said.

A blanket ban on publication of details of the case was lifted only yesterday. The bomber, who lost both legs, an arm and was blinded, has remained under heavy guard at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. An initial false report had led to the assumption that he was a British Jew planning to blow up Al-Aqsa mosque, Islam's third holiest site.

A terse Israeli police statement yesterday told a different story. It also raised fears that Iran may be trying to engineer a spectacular terrorist raid before the Israeli election on May 29.

According to the Israeli version, Mr Mikdad, a Shia Muslim from Lebanon, is a member of Hezbollah. He was associated with Sheikh Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, its fanatical spiritual leader

who receives his military orders from Tehran's mullahs.

Before leaving for Israel, Mr Mikdad — whose chances of survival are described as slim — spent time in the Iranian Embassy in Beirut. He arrived in Israel on April 4 on a Swissair flight from Zurich. After days in Tel Aviv, he went to the Lawrence Hotel in Saladin Street near Jerusalem's walled city on April 9.

For Mossad, the most worrying aspect is that he was able to smuggle nearly a kilogram of US-made RDX plastic explosives through Zurich and Ben Gurion airports. A Shin Bet security official said just 200 grams (7oz) would have been enough to blow up a jet.

The security sources said that, although he had a return Swissair ticket to Zurich for April 18, it was believed he intended to swap this for an El Al flight. "It seems Hezbollah

wanted to exclude anything which might upset the Europeans. That is why he did not blow up the plane as it was flying from Zurich to Tel Aviv," a security official said.

"The idea was to attack an El Al plane leaving Israel."

The hotel blast, which foiled the plot, came a day after Israel launched its 16-day blitz last month against Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

The police statement said a Sony clock radio was modified to conceal a bomb. The device would have been detonated by the use of a hollow rubber tube which had replaced the AM antenna. Western security experts said a similar bomb was used to blow up the PanAm jet over Lockerbie in 1988.

Last night, Western diplomats ridiculed a Hezbollah statement from Beirut denying Mr Mikdad's involvement. A diplomat said: "It was a failed operation but one that had potential to aggravate the Middle East situation to a very dangerous degree. Hezbollah's main aim will be to try to avoid any Israeli retaliation, now that it has been uncovered."



An Islamic militant brandishes the Koran yesterday as he awaits the verdict of the high security court at his trial in Cairo. He was one of nine members of Islamic

## Egyptian militants jailed

Jihad jailed for plotting to assassinate several Egyptian ministers and other senior officials. Hassan Muhammad Hashim, the leader, who was facing the death

penalty, received a five-year sentence. Two other defendants were given 15 years' hard labour, and the others were jailed for between three and ten years. (AFP)

## Rock split as voters assess Bossano

FROM DOMINIQUE SEARLE  
IN GIBRALTAR

GIBRALTAR will wake up this morning to discover who will lead the Rock into 2000. The outcome — which for the first time in two decades has not been totally clear to observers — will leave the Rock more divided than ever.

Gibraltar yesterday saw the highest turnout in 16 years, with more than 55 per cent of the 18,400 electors having cast their vote by midway through the electoral day.

Joe Bossano, the leader of the Socialist Labour Party, who has been in power for eight years, and Peter Caruana, his main Social Democrat opponent, spent the day at the polling stations with their wives.

They, too, seemed uncertain who would be asked to swear allegiance to the Queen this afternoon in The Convent, a 16th-century Franciscan monastery that is the Governor's official residence.

The professional classes seemed to have turned out in force to back the Social Democrats to deprive Mr Bossano of the high support (73 per cent) he won in the 1992 poll, when the Social Democrats managed only 23 per cent.

## European hunt for 'Lisbon Ripper'

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

A PORTUGUESE serial killer dubbed the "Lisbon Ripper" is being hunted across Europe.

He is being sought by police in four countries where he has killed, as well as in Portugal. Lisbon police do not rule out the possibility that he is in Britain.

The "Ripper" is believed to have killed at least seven women since 1992, three in Portugal and one each in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark and The Netherlands. All his victims, the last of whom was murdered late last year, were young, drug-dependant prostitutes.

The consistent pattern of the murders has convinced Portuguese police and Interpol that the killings were committed by the same man. Victims have been strangled, then disembowelled with a shard of glass. On no occasion has there been evidence of rape.

He is believed to be white, aged between 35 and 40, tall, with a pathological hatred of women, and probably suffering from Aids. Police think that he may be a lorry driver whose work takes him across Europe.

## Win tickets for Euro 96



TODAY, The Times offers you the chance to win tickets to the biggest sporting event in Britain for 30 years — the Euro 96 European soccer championships.

We have six pairs of tickets from the FA to give away — a pair for each of England's matches at Wembley against Switzerland, Scotland and Holland as well as a pair of tickets for the Wembley quarter-final, semi-final and final matches. It is your chance to see our boys in action as they take on Europe's best.

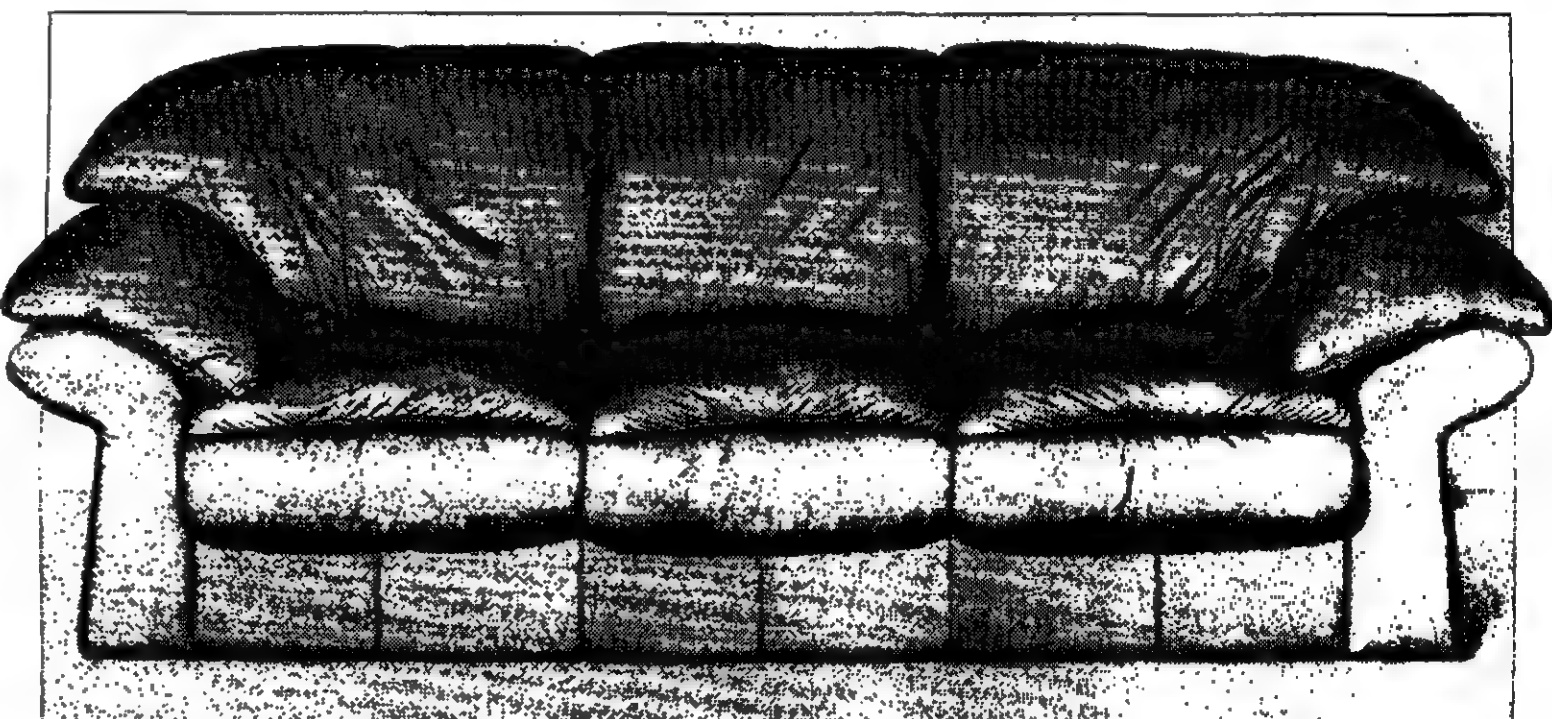
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For your chance to be part of the biggest footballing event since World Cup fever gripped the nation in 1966 simply collect 10 differently numbered tokens from the 12 which will be printed in The Times until Saturday May 25. Token two appears below. Then attach the tokens to the official entry form which will appear with a competition question and address next Saturday. The closing date for receipt of entries is first post Wednesday May 29.

The winners will be the first six names selected at random from all correct answers received with 10 tokens attached. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply. The prizes available are tickets provided by the Football Association and may not be resold under any circumstances.

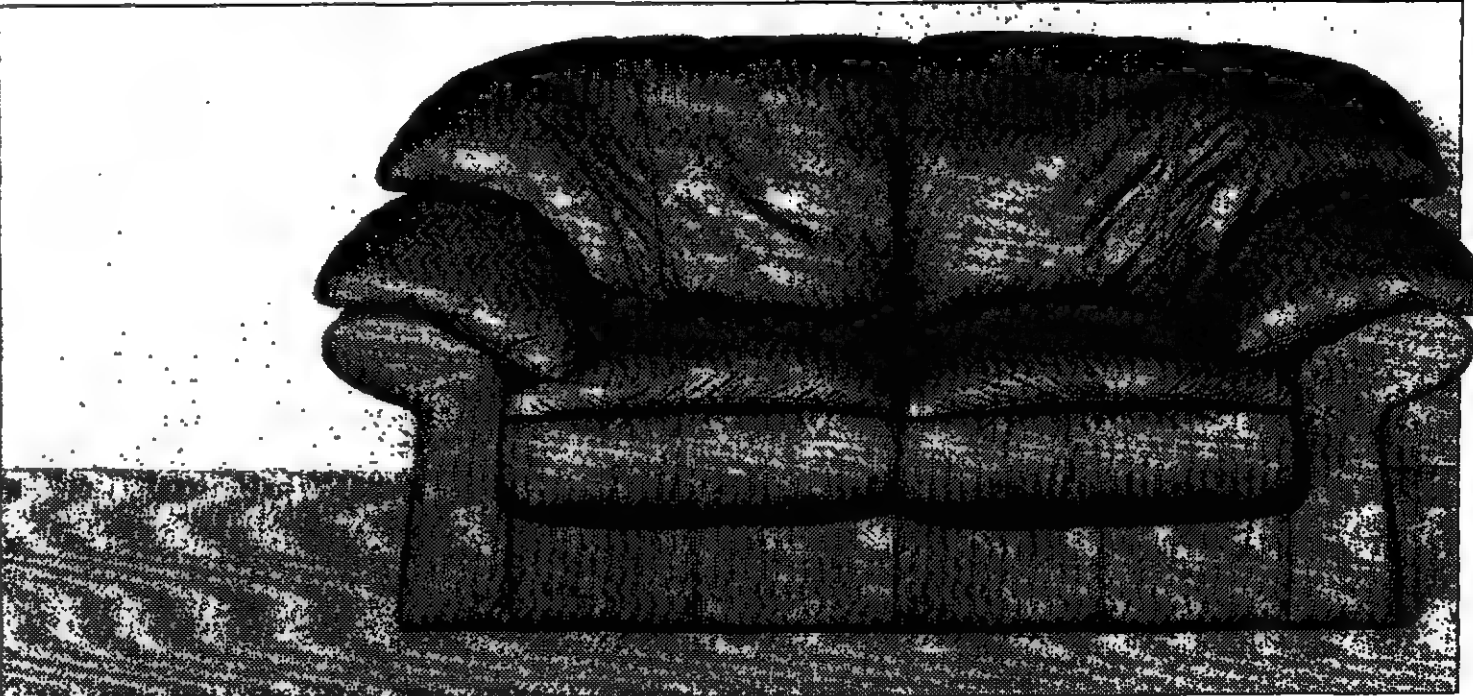
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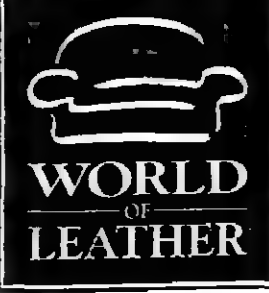
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# Seven fall out in Peru

PRESIDENTIAL election in 2000 a with ir voluntarism in the r trial ele said so flict an on cont basis. thousand from i and Ta In a die-das also si out ca with R Counc All i of an strat parts Yet sir to trac by sig into and B

In the week that four Britons were rescued from Indonesia, we talk to four who endured a very different jungle ordeal

IT SOUNDED like the adventure of a lifetime: a journey through the jungle in which seven young people would discover the mysteries of the Amazon and, in the process, uncover their secret strengths. The plight of the four young Britons held captive for four months in Indonesia has brought home how dangerous such "character-building" expeditions can be. Yet for the intrepid adventurers featured in a forthcoming Channel 4 documentary, *Seven Go Mad in Peru*, what transpired was more farce than near-tragedy. Their bold experiment in fostering team spirit rapidly degenerated into a nightmare of petty squabbling and physical privations.

Last July Will Butler-Adams, a 21-year-old student at Newcastle University, gathered together a random crew of distant acquaintances and set off for Peru and a nine-week odyssey through dense jungle to an Indian village. The hopes of the group, aged between 21 and 30, were high when they first met a fortnight before their departure. Yet despite taking part in an Army-organised survival weekend, most were unprepared physically and mentally for the rigours of the jungle.

Their gung-ho *esprit de corps* soon disintegrated. The heat was overpowering, the insects relentless. Their days consisted of marching in single file through thick vegetation, their nights were spent closed in tents to escape the mosquitoes.

Almost immediately a rift developed between the sexes. The girls complained that the boys were selfish, the boys



Clockwise from left: Andy gulps fresh vine water, the boys take a break, vegetarian Hayley ponders parrot for dinner. Will in contemplative pose

said the girls were not pulling their weight. Everyone began to doubt Will's leadership.

After a few days, with the group running out of rations, the girls, both vegetarians, were horrified when the boys began to shoot parrots, tortoises and monkeys to supplement their staple of rice. For three weeks they were stranded on a riverbank.

By the time they reached civilisation, relationships had irretrievably broken down. While the boys went on to

complete the Inca Trail, the girls made their own way home. Now, nine months later, most of the group are barely in touch. So why did it all go so horribly wrong? This is what four of them told us:

**Bruce Chapman, 23**  
"I met Will at a friend's party when he was busy planning the trip, carrying maps around and talking about it. At first everyone seemed to get very well, but that didn't last when we got

into the jungle. The mental slog involved in that part of the trip was terrible, you just kept going from day to day.

We were hoping to catch most of our food, but one of the guns broke immediately. Although the other one worked reasonably well, we ran out of cartridges on a number of occasions, so we went hungry. That was our biggest problem — we all lost a couple of stone.

The tensions increased once we were out of the jungle and on our way to Cuzco, along the Andes. Before, people had sweet disagreements under the carpet, but when the conditions were no longer arduous, there was a general attitude of 'we can get away from each other, so we don't need to be nice to each other any more'.

"There was definitely a split between the five boys and Laura and Hayley. The tensions among the boys were transitory, they didn't cause any lasting animosity. But the split had nothing to do with sexism — it was to do with who contributed and who didn't. We got on extremely well with Erin, the producer, because she pulled her weight. She also found it difficult getting on with the girls.

"Everyone found out about the trip through friends, apart from Laura who answered an advertisement in the paper. She was accepted very quickly because she had been at film school and Will wanted someone who knew how to use a camera. His vetting of her should have been more rigorous.

"The trip gave me the thinking space to consider the future. I had been heading towards a banking job but now I have decided to join the Army."

**Andy Wager, 22**  
"We felt tensions pretty quickly once we were in the jungle. Our team spirit soon collapsed.

"Each person was supposed to carry their own water for the day. The girls were already carrying less equipment than us, but one day Laura turned to me after walking for three hours and said 'can I have some of your water?' I asked her if she had run out and she said 'I only brought a litre'. I completely blew my top, refused to give her any water and told her she

was a detriment to the whole group.

"The girls were so irritating that by the time we came out of the jungle, I didn't want to have anything to do with them.

"The worst character clash was between me and Hayley. I found her despicable. She was so self-centred — she was the kind of person who could sit and talk about herself for hours and never ask you a single question.

"The only time Will failed was in not dealing with the situation with the girls earlier. By the time he tried to make us all be friends, everyone had made up their minds and wasn't prepared to change."

**Hayley Pattison, 22**  
"There was a real air of optimism at the beginning. Will was very jolly-hockey-sticks. We realised it would be tough but the odd thing is, no one quite knew why.

"Being with the same people day in, day out is exhausting and also hugely isolating, even though you are never more than 50 yards from anyone. My diary from the first night is a cry of 'what am I doing here?'

"There were times when I had to use all my strength just to put my feet forward. Everyone became incredibly selfish and there was a massive boy-girl divide. The boys became competitive and masculine, they patronised Laura and I, calling us 'the girls'.

"If you hurt yourself, the attitude was 'come on, you're holding us up'. The boys would never admit they were suffering. Finally I thought 'fine, you do your Indiana Jones, I'll just get on with walking'. As for Will, he became totally self-absorbed.

"In hindsight, the trip was fantastic but I feel sad that we didn't co-ordinate as a group. I guess we were hostages to the jungle. You expect it to be paradise but actually it's just endless mud and dark green vines with no horizon."

**Robert Sawyer, 27**  
"The sheer daily slog creates a selfishness — it was a 'sod the rest' experience. I remember Will had packets of sweets that he wouldn't share — I ended up nicking handfuls from his pack, then eating them alone in my tent.

"Generally the boys got on

Finding your man in New York

## Manhattan chase ...

OVER THE rocket and shitake mushroom salad, their eyes met. "Hyacinth," said the tanned, dark-haired American boy, grappling with his companion's English name. "You are so sweet you make my teeth ache."

Yes, it's corny, but this is the sort of chat-up line English girls can expect if they decide to miss the "season" this year and head instead for Manhattan. I have not yet had personal experience of being courted by an American man —

though in this city the possibility must not be discounted — but women friends who have been treated to the full, soppy effect of an American lad's come-to-bed gaze say that the process is irredeemably saccharine. They will cover you in blooms and call you "princesses", but after a few days you may succumb to boredom.

Where to look? Manhattan's best, unofficial, singles bar — the concourse café at Grand Central Station, has just closed after a high rent demand. In its absence, the best hunting will probably be had at the fading Bowery Bar and the trendy Cub Room.

Manhattan in summer becomes unspeakably hot, so bring light clothes, cut your hair like Jennifer Aniston (to the prime-time comedy *Friends*), and wax those legs and armpits, too. For all their prattling about feminism, New York men do not share their continental-European counterparts' preference for hirsute

dames. Regular pedicures are also the norm here.

Clothes this summer are pastels, tight trousers, perhaps with bell-bottoms, bared tummy buttons and shiny sandals with high heels. Nail varnish, though a tad tarty in Britain, is widely worn, both on fingers and toes. This year's shade is light blue.

The good parties are held at weekends, usually on Long Island, where you should find a man who has a rental-share on a house in the Hamptons, the sought-

after trio of villages on Long Island's south shore.

But do not be discouraged if he fails to pounce. Indeed, that may be left to you. Groping is no longer part of the repertoire of the male New Yorker, so

bullied has he been by the "cry rape" sisterhood. If he is going to pinch your bottom he will ask you beforehand — "Hyacinth, may I, without making any negative statement about you as a woman, place my palm on your posterior at this moment in time?"

The American man is earnest, talkative, and really rather sweet, though sometimes in need of justification. He will tell you about his fears, his thoughts and particularly about his therapist. Prepare yourself for lines such as "my therapist says I have a fear of commitment because I was not breast-fed". If he is serious, he will invite you home to meet his mum and leave you alone with her while he watches the baseball on television.

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Simon Gray on champagne, cigarettes — and being told he was dying

# A dramatist who refused to take the final curtain

It is noon and the champagne is in the ice bucket, which Simon Gray regards as "the closest most of us get to happiness, after a certain age". We are in sunny Chichester, the morning after the first night of his new play, and his old friend Pinter has just rung to tell him to buy the paper in which the first of several glowing reviews appears.

The last time we talked, Gray and Pinter were not on speaking terms. Gray's comic portrayal of Pinter in the television film *Unnatural Pursuits* had resulted in a very public rift. So I was keen to discover how they had patched it up.

"I sent him a poem," Gray says, "which I had come across in *The Spectator*, called *Loss*. And Harold wrote back." I looked up the poem: a plaintive elegy by Beatrice Garland on the "unquiet domain" of dismay, deeper than grief: "dismay is private, unpromising and small... something darkish, bruised, spreading underground."

"Harold and I had been through six productions together, there was too much life lived together, too much shared experience for it to be a permanent rift," Pinter had come to Chichester and was "extremely courteous and complimentary" to Gray's director, Richard Wilson — who had played the caricature Pinter in the offending TV film.

At the end of that 1993 interview, the cheering prospect for Gray was his next new play, about George Blake and Sean Bourke. This was, of course, *Cell Mates* — and we all know what happened to *Cell Mates*. "When the history of the stage is written," Gray says with a mordant laugh, "it will have become the most famous play I ever wrote."

Five years of work dissolved with Stephen Fry's recorded telephone message: "I'm sorry, I'm so very sorry." The aftermath meant redirecting the play with Simon Ward, tears in the dressing room. Gray's physical and mental exhaustion, and the closure of a play killed off by a fatal contamination.

Gray exorcised the demons by publishing his account of it in a book, *Fat Chance* — "an agony to write" but a masterpiece, managing, despite the rage, rancour and desire for revenge, to be charming, funny, full of dramatic suspense and — in attempting to understand Fry — generous and humane. There had been "so much merriment" in the production.

A traumatic year has passed since then. Gray went into a clinic to sort out his bad back and to dry out, and was told he had terminal cancer, with between six months and two years to live. "Not only was I told that I was going to die, but

## THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



subsequently I did nearly die. Of pneumonia, which I picked up in the hospital while they were doing their enthusiastic foraging for cancer. I suppose you could call it droll."

He had been told the worst by a doctor "who could not resist being the bringer of bad news". On five consecutive mornings they told him the cancer was not what they had hypothesised, but a more lethal one. What did he feel? (Not such a fatuous question; a friend once told me that when her cancer was diagnosed she felt a perverse onrush of happiness.) "Misery. Real misery. It made me realise I am very keen to live. I didn't want my life to be taken away from me. I thought 'so young, my Lord, and dead'."

"I couldn't have done a Potter. Potter did it his way. If the reprieve had not come, I would simply have curled up quietly. I hope, in a nest of love, with my loved ones around."

Instead, the reprieve came: the doctors had got it wrong, he only had a couple of aneurysms in chest and abdomen. Until the pneumonia. "I had a temperature of 107 for eight days. Poor Victoria," Victoria Rothschild, with whom he lives, thought she would be widowed before they got round to marrying. "If I were in America I'd sue the hell out of the hospital. But here, if I named them, they'd probably sue the hell out of me." He has to go back soon to have the aneurysms patched up; not surprisingly, "I've developed absolute hospital phobia".

The good news is that he looks extremely well in his lofty, shambolic way, and has flung himself into work. *Simply Disconnected* is the sequel to his wonderful 1975 play *Otherwise Engaged*, with the same star, Alan Bates, playing the detached Simon Hench who, 21 years on (Gray keeps saying 25 years; he is hopeless about dates), again has his solitude interrupted by brother, old school friend, parasite hanger-on, etc.

For the first time, Gray kept away from rehearsals; he marvelled that the director Richard Wilson, who had never seen *Otherwise Engaged*, rang

him only three times for advice, and "Harold and I both think this is Alan's greatest performance". So Chichester has been a happy interlude; he had been to the beach at Hayling Island to look for the house he grew up in, "which has, of course, gone. It was called Mallows — which sounds like the setting for an Agatha Christie."

He has also finished a new novel, and a play called *Who Me?* about his father, who died in his seventies "of aneurysms, so I suppose it's genetic". The BBC asked him to dramatise *Fat Chance* (even suggesting that Fry and Mayall might play themselves) but Gray decided he couldn't go back over that painful story again. Instead he is dramatising the story of Julian Hough, Patrick Barlow's partner in the National Theatre of Brent, which was on the verge of great success when, on two occasions, Julian "did a Stephen Fry" and walked out.

Julian happened to be the son of Gray's old Cambridge tutor Graham Hough. Julian died, jaywalking on the Guildford bypass — so smashed up he was identifiable only by his fingerprints. "I felt I could do this story," Gray says, "because I hadn't been involved in it."

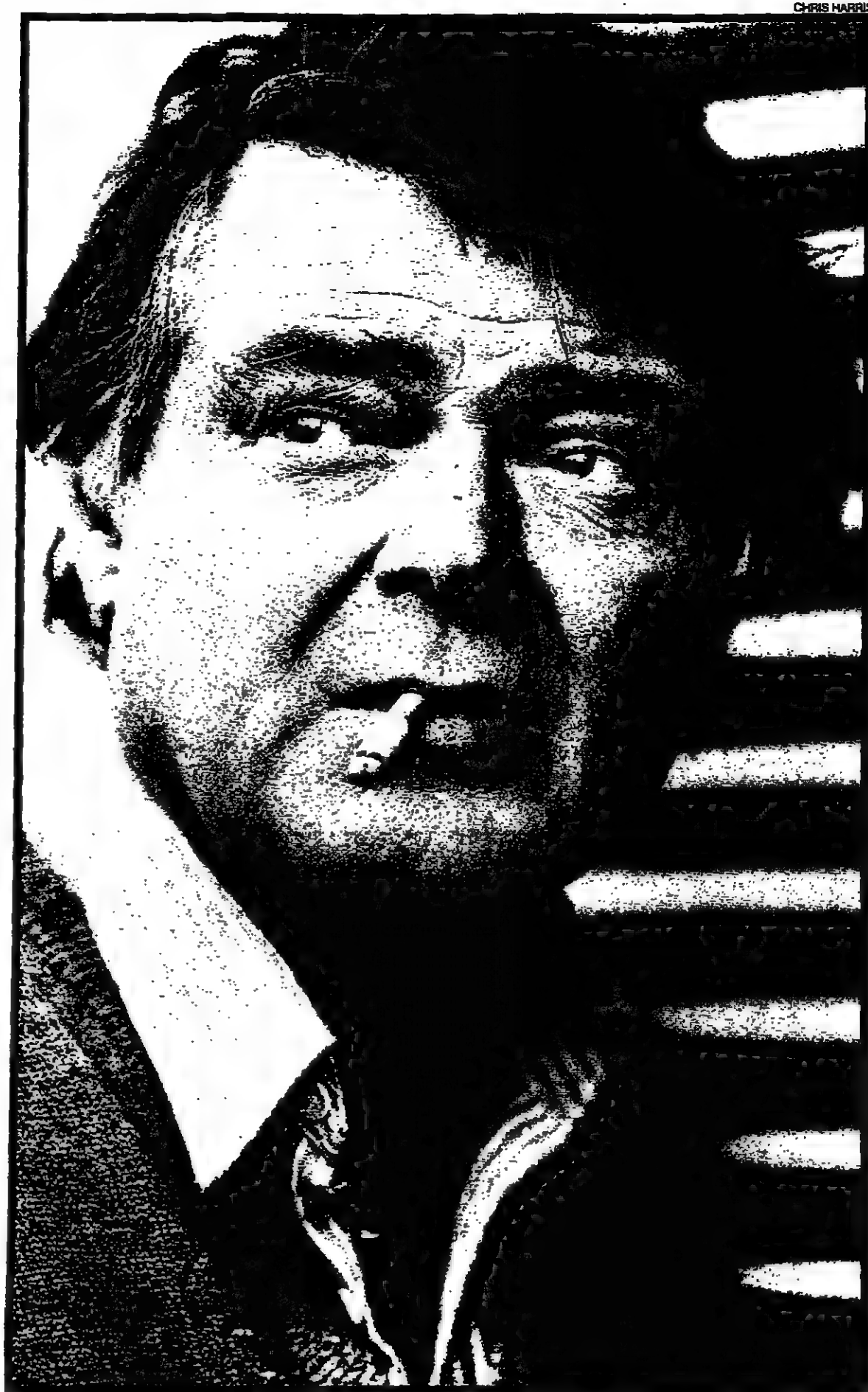
There are many endearing things about Simon Gray: his Eeyorish pessimism followed by laughter; the way he says "If you print this I will kill you" before spilling a riveting confidence; and his reckless addiction, even after the brush with death, to champagne and to Silk Cut, which he buys by the carton.

But he can't still be getting through 60 a day, surely? "Oh yes. And I loathe them. I find them revolting, really revolting. I wake in the morning and think, why do I do this? In two minutes I will feel foul." But as he wrote ten years ago, when he asked Pinter's advice about giving up, Harold told him not to bother yet.

"You've got a few years of smoking left in you."

He rang his doctor about a prescription for Nicorette gum and was told he must come in and "sit about for hours in a germ-and-baby filled waiting room," which made him so irritated he smoked even more. Soon he was chewing Nicorettes and smoking at the same time, and even the memory of the gum makes him gag.

Nobody knows more, or writes better, than Gray about the destructive forces in life. There is as much drama in the accounts he writes of seeing plays into production as in his plays — with himself as the fall guy. A Simon Gray day — never more graphically depicted than in his television film



Gray. Silk Cut drooping: he is permanently seething, boiling, fulminating, composing outraged letters

*Running Late* — would feature a taxi driver who loses his way, unwanted callers, lost door-keys, jammed machinery, roads blocked by demonstrations, cancelled trains. If he ever drove a car, he would be clamped. Or towed away every day.

The first time I met Gray he was still teaching English literature at Queen Mary College — "where I started as a mere lecturer and ended up, 20 teaching years later, as a mere lecturer" — toiling in to the East End from his home in sylvan Highgate every day on the North-

ern Line. He became a key figure (hunched, intense, ironical) in the battle to foil a local road-widening scheme.

When in Los Angeles for a production of *The Common Pursuit* (recorded in his book, *How's That for Telling 'Em, Fat Lady?* and memorably portrayed by his doppelgänger Alan Bates) he can't hire a video without showing a driver's licence; a receptionist he asks to call a cab thinks he wants to call a car ("I wanted to smash his Woody Allen smile") and he is menaced by a rollerskater. He is permanently seething, boiling, fulminating, composing outraged letters to airlines about not getting an aisle seat or to restaurants about not getting a booth table. And constantly being asked not to smoke.

Only last night he had been to a restaurant which had a notice: "We would prefer you not to smoke." Red rag to bull. "So I lit up, and when they pointed out the notice, I told them, 'I prefer to smoke.' I hope he never does become serene or sober or abandons what he calls his "controlled paranoia", and that his sixtieth birthday in October finds him with a West End first night, awash with champagne.

## Pass me a man-sized hanky

Real men don't cry for Bambi, says Giles Coren

Five in every hundred men who watched Mel Gibson paint his face blue and cry "Freedom!" in *Braveheart* burst into tears. Women, for the most part, were unmoved. We also outstep the ladies in *Schindler's List*, *The Elephant Man*, *Philadelphia* and *Forrest Gump*.

Have we gone mad? Have we forgotten that a man should offer only a dry shoulder to the helpless blubbing of his fair companion? Not quite. It is just a question of which film twists your stopcock and according to an invaluable survey of Britain's cinema-going habits, compiled by Microsoft, those films differ between the sexes.

In *Ghost*, you see, it was the birds who blubbed, whereas only half as many blokes broke down. In the awful Bette Midler schlockfest, *Beaches*, ten times as many women cried, a pattern repeated in *Four Weddings*, *Sense and Sensibility* and *The Lion King*.

These figures prove conclusively, as figures always do, that men cry about friendships between men and the happy(fish) resolution of violence. Women cry about romantic love and dead cartoon animals.

You will never find a man crying over *Sleepless in Seattle* or *Doctor Zhivago*. But put him in front of *The Shawshank Redemption* at the point when Morgan Freeman and Tim Robbins unite on the beach, or *The Natural* when Robert Redford hits the last home run, and dive for dry land.

While women may cry for Bambi's dead mother, men will cry in *The Deer Hunter*, not for the slaughtered cervine but for the tragic reunion of the hunters, Christopher Walken and Robert De Niro. But 8 per cent of men, according to the survey, never cry in films at all. Pah! I would like to see them dry-eyed when Rocky finally throws his arms around Apollo Creed and they sob together: "Ain't gonna be no rematch. Ain't gonna be no rematch."

And what about the bit in *Escape To Victory* when Michael Caine's team of footballing POWs refuse to escape at halftime through a tunnel in their changing room but go back on the pitch to show their German captors a thing or two about British football? No man could hold himself together. When Pete does that bicycle kick from the edge of the box to make it 4-4 in the dying seconds, even as the crowd are invading the pitch to smuggle the players to freedom under their coats...

So, if you want to impress a woman with your ur-male credibility, go and see *Brief Encounter* or *Love Story* or *Terms of Endearment*. But for God's sake, don't take her to a weepy.

I just wanted to smash his Woody Allen smile'

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## Philip Howard



### When Gaullists were Gauls and Britons were woad, we had a visitor

Monsieur le Président Chirac is visiting Britain to rediscover the magic potion *l'entente très cordiale*. Accompanied by Astérix, his *Ministre des Calambours*, he has been feasted *à la nautique* on the native dish of *Vache Folle* Anglaise with Brussels sprouts, and has addressed both Houses of Druids in their Menhir Circle. But every time he opens his mouth, the Druids wail the song at the top of the Bardic charts: "Ooox. Aaxx. vive the world's greatest Gaul, Eric Chirac." Chirac finds this puzzling because he never believed that the Roman game of kicking the boulder would catch on in this island, where they have to carry little portable roofs to stop the sky from falling on their heads. For the climate does not favour a level playing-field to encourage the Gallic skills of boulder-control. And in any case he prefers David Glinolax, the other Gaul who has been engaged to teach the Britons to kick the boulder at Pons Aelius (Newcastle), a frontier fort.

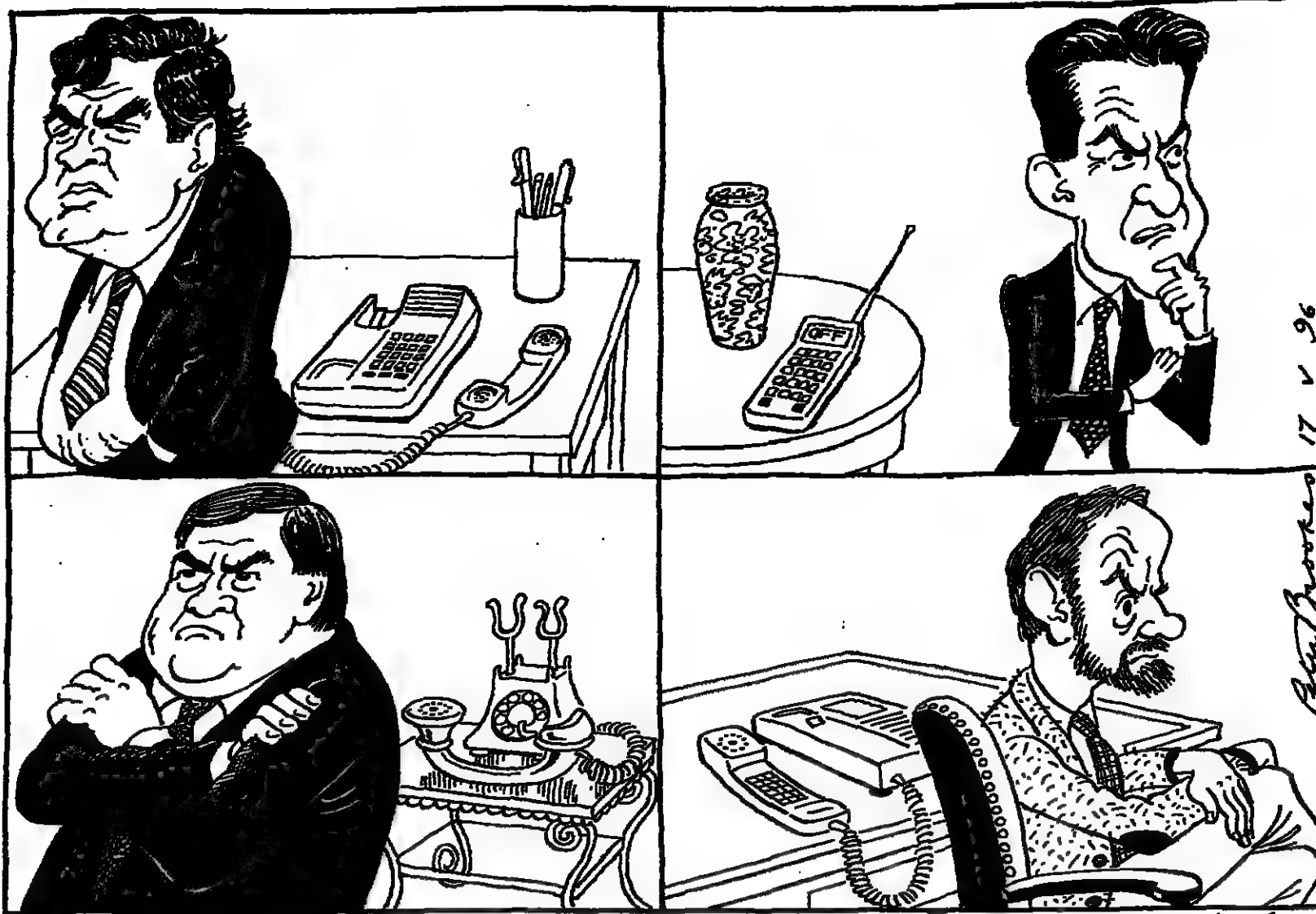
Tempted by *Toujours Provan*, a Gallic bestseller about the good life in the garden suburb of Glasgow called Provan, Chirac has crossed the Wall to visit the Picts. The Prince Mykingdomforan, acts as his interpreter to the gang leaders, C.U. Jinnux and Wee Gorbaloxx. On his marchabout the Easterhouses, the Picts wave their Saltires and offer him their native dish of Haggis (Intestins Foux Ecossais or Parise de Brebis Farci) — a sausage of whose existence he had first heard from the Paris correspondent of *Temporun*. So Chirac addresses the Picts: "Messieurs les Pictes. We cannot build Europe without you. As great tribes, we must each retain our native traditions. For us Gauls, as your *Sol* tablet knows, our favourite dish is wild boar garnished with frogs' legs. You, on the other hand, worship both your boars and your bores, often in the same person. You allow Euro-bores of all sorts to monopolise your forum. As we say in Gaul, *chacun a son goût* or Bill Cashot can give you goat. So we shall continue to roast our boars. Your religion lets them bore you to death. As they say, *Major e longinquo reverentia*, or John Major looks better from a great distance, just as I appreciate your bagpipes best from a long way off.

"Since the *Pactum Romanum*, Britain has been a reluctant province with a revolting tendency. If it was not your Queen Boadicea then it was Queen Maggie, whom Druids worship as a reincarnation of Boadicea. Your island is a breeding-ground for would-be Emperors. Clodius Albinus had a go. Septimius Severus defeated his barny army at Lyons. Then you had the notion of an independent Britannia within the Empire Union or E.U. Carausius, admiral of the Channel Fleet (RN), proclaimed himself Emperor. Allectus murdered him and took over the role of Tribal Xenophobe and Demagogue.

"Aut Caesar aut nihil (Independence or nothing). *Referenda est Britannia*. But Rome did not forget or forgive. Constantine Chlorus, 'the pale one' and an ancestor of Helmut Kohl, brought his legions over to reclaim the province. But Britannia did not forget either. Magnus Maximus, a superlative of John Major, was at it again in 383. Read all about it in Kipling's *Centurion of the XXXth*. He set himself up as Emperor in Britannia and dreamt up a new protocol. He crossed the Manche and took over Gallia and Iberia after defeating Commissioner Gratian. But he was killed, and Britain was back in the EU.

"Then the Rhine froze and the barbarians made inroads again. So you Brits declared your own independent Presidents of the EU: Marcus, Gratian and Constantine III. But Constantine took your army to Gallia, and neither he nor it came back. So then your Druids wrote to Honorius, Emperor of the West, and said please send an EU task-force, we want back in. And the President said: 'I am too busy. *Alex jacta est*. Die of cold (3-4) ice cube, mes braves.' But you kept appealing to Rome, lastly to Aetius in the 470s. But Europe would not be half as much fun without you and your lefts leave, let's stay, thumbs up/down to Rome.

"Why's the old fellow blithering wind and piss?" said C.U. Jinnux. "Away bile your head," said Wee Gorbaloxx. "But at least he doesn't speak English."



IT'S GOOD TO TALK....

BT

## It's those bricks again

Carl Andre's minimalist installations are taken as seriously by critics as they were 20 years ago — but are they art?

A cutting from a copy of *The Times* lies before me. It is one of my columns. I stare at it, hardly believing my eyes. Alas, it is real: would that it might go back to where it came from, but I know it won't. For it was written and published 20 years ago almost to the week, when my hair was a dark brown and I could dash down the stairs without holding the banisters. (chabod! chabod!)

Come come, Levin, what's all this maulin talk? What is that particular column among the hundreds — the thousands — that you have written? I shall tell you. It is particularly because it has come back to haunt me, with what I wrote about those years ago and which I am now obliged to write again. Is there anyone reading this whose memory is sufficiently stirred when he or she reads the headline: "Art may come and art may go, but a brick is a brick for ever."

You see, in 1976, an American sculptor, Carl Andre by name, was given space in the Tate Gallery to put down one of his own figures. (That admirable practice continues. I am happy to say.) But when Mr Andre was invited to put down his figure, it was seen to be no figure to rival Praxiteles, Donatello, Grinling Gibbons, Canova, Rodin, Picasso and Henry Moore. Far from it: for his imperishable masterpiece he had put down two rows of perfectly ordinary builder's bricks, ten by six on two layers, and nothing else at all.

Whereupon merry hell broke out. And, as you would expect, I took upon myself the entire burden of making the explosion bigger, noisier, angrier and generally whoopier. Throughout, when I felt that the uproar might be waning, I shoved in my own again, and in no time there was more blood on the pavement. I give you a sample.

A pile of bricks is a pile of bricks, and as soon as the curtain went up... I read these words: "It must be remembered that for at least a hundred years now every new form of art has been ridiculed and labelled folly." This is an example — indeed, it is one of the finest specimens I have ever begged — of the fallacy of the Undistributed Middle, which is to be found in the first chapter of any book on elementary logic, normally in this form:

"All oaks are trees. All elms are trees. Therefore all oaks are elms."

For it is not only great but disturbingly original work that is called rubbish: it is also rubbish. And it is not only new artistic forms that are ridiculed; it is also piles of bricks.

And now Mr Andre, after 20 years spent ignoring Britain, has brought us a brand-new show. And in his brand-new show — he has chosen Oxford for it — he has given us once again an enormous lot of bricks — bricks entirely indistinguishable from the old bricks, or indeed any ordinary bricks at all. How's that for 20 years of perseverance?

Now I must reveal that this time the man on the ladder has given us something as well as bricks. There are, for instance, a couple of dozen chunks of wood, all of roughly the same size, shape, material (cedar I think) and position. There is a rather more shaped figure which reminds one a little — only a little — of America's electric chair. There is also a long copper band (I think it is copper) which snakes about the gallery for many yards.

At this point, I can almost hear Mr Richard Cork (the *Times* art critic) bursting at the seams, and the sharpening of hatchets can be heard far away. Because I have to say now, about Mr Carl Andre, that although he is obviously not a charlatan, what he is an artist of quite extraordinary small talent. And when I say this, it is impossible for me not to challenge some of Mr Cork's strongest beliefs about Mr Andre's work. For you see, Mr Cork wrote a very substantial article, published here on May 7 this year, in which he showed that he believes that Mr Andre is of great talent.

As it happens, the first clue to my scepticism has been given to me on a plate by Mr Andre. His — well let them be called his objects — all have names, and I offer a random selection of them, viz:

7 Cu Slant 30  
6 Metal Fugue (for Mendeleev)  
Thirty-ninth Copper Cardinal  
Lead Secret Work

Twenty-fifth Copper Cardinal  
Sand-Lime Instar  
Henge on 3 Right Thresholds  
Manet 8 Fathoms  
Ladder No 2  
Equivalent 8

I have to say, even if it makes Mr Cork groan, that although I remain certain that Mr Andre is not a charlatan, I do have to grit my teeth against believing that he is.

But upstairs, there is more, and it is what you and I would call somewhat overdone. As we come up into the upstairs gallery, we see that almost half of the space (and it is a very considerable space) is laid by tiles, rather thin ones. All the tiles are the same size and shape, which is square, and all the tiles touch their neighbours exactly. And so the entire floor consists of square tiles a foot across — to be precise, one thousand two hundred and ninety six of them. Although the tiles are the same shape and size, they change patches in different colours, though no odd one is to be found, or indeed even a few; huge sections are the rule. It is notable that there are no bright colours in this sea of squares; indeed, the entire gallery offers very few objects that anyone would like to dance to. (There is one exception to this mournful parade, which I shall come to anon.)

Now, as I never stop pointing out, art in all its forms can be shaken or stirred, or indeed both at once. The fact that I think Mr Andre's work is of no account — may, is more or less trivial and even silly — doesn't matter, not least because Mr Cork is at my elbow to tell me that Mr Andre's work is of high quality. (Though I cannot refrain from twitching when I read Mr Cork's "Andre uses his clusters of bricks to make cuts in space, thereby turning the floor they

occupy into an integral part of the sculpture.")

We all know that it is almost impossible to make sense of the blubs that accompany art exhibitions, and Carl Andre has opened the floodgates this time. Try this bit from Waldemar Januszczak: "Andre is unique among minimalist artists in striving for a poetic melancholy. He thinks with his heart and remembers with his feet. All his floor pieces are made to be walked over. They set out to remind you what it was like to scamper across things."

And what about Richard Dornett? "Implicit in that title [*Equivalents*] is the idea that a cloud is the visible equivalent of a certain amount of condensed water. But more than this, in its own mysterious way, a photograph of a cloud can also be considered an equivalent of the cloud itself. In other words, without sharing any of its physical properties, a work of art can be the equivalent of a natural phenomenon." (Many years ago Beachcomber — J.B. Morton — played a wicked trick on people who were babbling about a painting without really knowing anything about it. Beachcomber wrote two blurbs, one straightforward and one made of complete gibberish; then he offered them both and asked which was which. Roughly half got it wrong.)

But that, surely, is the glory of this business. And it comes in two forms. Go to Venice and stand before the great Titian *Assumption* in the Frari; you will need no blurb, not even a sensible one. Then, only a few paces away, you will see a figure by Canova. This time you will ponder: was he a great artist, or was he something to shudder at? No matter, a healthy argument is worth a few cups of coffee, and vice versa.

But here is Carl Andre, and you instantly know that there is no argument. Or rather, there is an argument, but it is far too trivial to waste time, effort and absurdity on.

Let him play with his bricks; may he never drop one on his toe. But before I go, let me salute him for one thing in his dreary world, in one corner of the gallery. Andre has put a huge, splendid, bit of — well, I would call it Lego — in lovely light wood, standing some six feet high. It is egg-shaped, and worth all of Andre's serious work. Chuck it. Andre, and make things like that. And then the Oxford gallery will be crowded, instead of having five people in it, as it did when I went.

### Bernard Levin

## Tears indeed

ONE of the country's top vegetable growers has lost the prize onions which were to have been the centrepiece of his exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show. They have been eaten.

The onions, grown by Chelsea gold medal winner Arthur Davies and each weighing more than 2lb, had been placed carefully in cold storage at his local pub in Powys to ensure that they were in mint condition for the show, which opens next week. Unfortunately, one of the kitchen staff at the Talgarth Inn chopped them up and popped them into the pub's lasagne.

Davies has won 84 national gold medals for his vegetables, and had been commissioned to grow the onions for the Ipswich seed firm Thompson & Morgan. "They got better care than the wife over the ten months I grew them," he said yesterday. "One of them reached the size of a melon. It was a beauty. I'll bring the one onion that wasn't eaten to the show, but it's a very poor specimen."

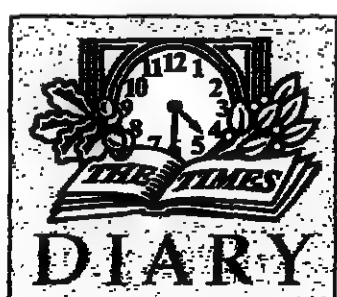
The pub is contrite and has been offering Davies free drinks as consolation. "It's very unfortunate," says the manager, Peter Lawson. "They were so big that

they went a very long way. But I can assure you that they tasted very good."

● *Jude*, the new film based on Thomas Hardy's *Obscure* novel, has been sold to every commercial territory but one: Germany. The problem is the film-makers' modish abbreviation of Hardy's original title, which will need to be changed for the German market. To plaster cinemas with the stark



"It's a very rare haggis from a cow's stomach, M Chirac"



name "Jude", which means "Jew" in German, would, it is felt, be a little insensitive.

### Swagger on

WHEN not hurling money at his Referendum Party, Sir James Goldsmith likes nothing more than big family parties. Officially, last night's party, held at Montez, a nightclub in Knightsbridge where sheikhs rattle and roll, was to celebrate the 42nd birthday of Goldsmith's oldest daughter, Isabel. But the news that another of the guests, Jemima Khan, is pregnant added a springtime fizz to proceedings.

Isabel, Goldsmith's daughter by his first wife, has a boyfriend some 20 years her junior.

More than 100 of the usual suspects — Rothschilds, Aspinalls, Fortes and Thatchers — turned up,

sniffing around the thousands of pounds worth of floral explosions. There is no doubt about it. The man would bring a definite strut to Downing Street.

### Stinky wicket

IAN BOTHAM and Alan Lamb may have pulled up their stumps, but Jokers in the pavilion still abound. Yorkshire's Alex Morris comes high on the list — he snuffed a smelly fish down one of his team-mates' pads in the match against Derbyshire last weekend.

The England and Yorkshire all-rounder Darren Gough takes up the story: "Alex Morris quietly

slipped a very old bit of mackerel inside Anthony McGrath's pads at Sheffield. Anthony spent some time trying to find out where the awful smell was coming from, particularly as it got onto his clothes."

### Yorkshire pud

SIR BERNARD INGHAM'S famous hangdog expression may well be explained by his penchant for a curious nettle-based pudding. This Sunday, Margaret Thatcher's former press secretary will totter off to his native Yorkshire and, to the triumphal fanfare of a local brass band, judge the World Dock Pudding Championship.

The dock plant used is a relation of those used to cure a nettle's sting. Mixed in with nettles, oatmeal and onions, and boiled thoroughly, they become Sir Bernard's favourite dish. "I find it impossible to describe," he gushes on Radio 4's *Going Places*. "For me, it's ambrosia and there's something Elysian about eating perfectly made dock pudding."

### Sock shock

WHILE the middle-aged model Jerry Hall removes her clothes for the latest *Vogue*, her catwalk contemporary Marie Helvin has de-



Marie: well padded

veloped a new trick to impress the public. She has taken to wearing rugby socks inside her bra to give her some lift.

Compliments on her beauty at the opening of Bruce Oldfield's new shop in Mayfair on Wednesday night were answered directly with the story of the socks. "I don't know what team they represent, but they're red and green if that's any help," she said. "... And no, I'm not going to pull them out to show you."

P-H-S

## Why child benefit is special

New Labour's row is really very old, says Paul Barker

If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. But of all the current Labour Party jostlings in the back-pantry of power, the row about child benefit is the real division. Child benefit has become the test of a commitment to social justice. Children are our future. How could a party that endangers their wellbeing call itself a party of reform?

Despite occasional murmurings, the Conservatives have left child benefit in place. But the Shadow Chancellor, Gordon Brown, has now said that one way for Labour to save money would be to scrap the payments to the mothers of older children. Frank Field, the Labour chairman of the Commons Social Security Select Committee, has emerged as one of his most vocal opponents. He says this will undercut the finances of working mothers (often part-timers) and their families.

The history of child benefit, and Frank Field's role in that history, explains why it has (rightly) become such a rallying cry. It is also a useful and legitimate focus for Labour MPs unhappy with the leadership. The point about child benefit is that just about 100 per cent of the seven million mothers entitled to it take their books to the post office and collect it. The money goes where it should. If a few rich mothers receive child benefit they don't need, this is a small price to pay. (It is probably cheaper than the administrative cost of a more complex system. If fiscal pressures demanded it, the best way to get the money back would be through PAYE.)

Labour's agonising over this precisely matches the tussle over the introduction of child benefit in the first place under the last Labour administration. It is evidence of how a Blair government might shape up under the pressures of office.

Twenty years ago, Frank Field was the Director of the Child Poverty Action Group. I was editor of the social affairs weekly, *New Society*. Together we became locked into the battle to save child benefit from strangulation at birth — by a Labour Prime Minister. To achieve victory, we broke all the polite rules.

In April 1976, James Callaghan succeeded Harold Wilson. He immediately sacked the radical Social Services Secretary, Barbara Castle, who had carried the Child Benefit Act into law. On May 25, 1976, her pallid successor, David Erni, rose in the Commons to say that child benefit would not now be introduced for at least three years. This sounded like a shadowy way of saying never.

Field rang me. There was someone he thought I should see. Could they come to my office? When Field arrived, he was coldly furious. So was his companion, whom I did not then know. He had given Field a wad of photocopies. They were photocopies of Cabinet minutes, which showed how this shabby decision was reached.

The Treasury — with Denis Healey, the Chancellor, in the Gordon Brown part — had counter-attacked over the cost. Callaghan had his own doubts. It meant a fiscal shift from men (who gained most from the existing child tax allowances) to women. Trade unionists weren't keen. Callaghan was vulnerable to union pressures. The abandonment was agreed. Cabinet then concentrated on how Erni could "sell" the sell-out.

Field asked if I would run an article based on the minutes. I said I would. On June 17, 1976, it appeared in *New Society* under the heading, "Killing a commitment: The Cabinet v the children".

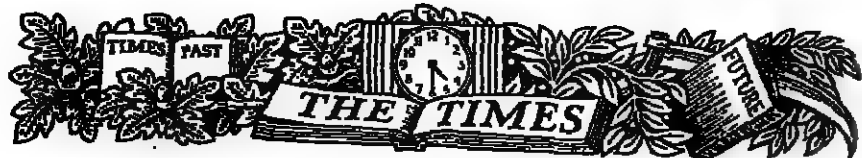
To avoid cold feet, I didn't tell my publishers about it until the issue was being distributed. Everything in the office that might help inquiries was burnt, or flushed down the women's lavatory by my secretary. (I could tell Scotland Yard, correctly, that I had nothing to be interested in.) When early copies reached London, Field took a bundle to the Commons and made sure they were well distributed. This all breached the byzantine rules of British governmental life. It broke the Official Secrets Act. It offended against the rules of the parliamentary journalists' lobby (to which *New Society* had the freedom of not belonging). But it worked. Child benefit was introduced after all.

It is rare, in my experience, for an article to have such a direct effect. As Field had shrewdly planned, there were acres of follow-up coverage. The Commons promptly held two debates: one on what the revelations meant for social security policy, the other on the breach of official secrecy. Our informant was, I am glad to say, undiscovered by the mole-hunters. We run into each other from time to time and exchange a quiet smile. The invention of the photocopy is the only step towards open government that has happened in my lifetime.

Child benefit became, and has remained, the yardstick of government (or opposition) concern for the family. At the time, I thought we had also increased the chances of a Freedom of Information Act. Field's article asked: "What would the Prime Minister, the Chancellor and their colleagues' reactions have been if they had known they were going to be individually accountable for what was said in Cabinet? Is it another argument for more open government? After all, this is another of Labour's election pledges."

He and I were involved in helping to produce a draft Information Bill. With Liberal support, it was making progress when the Callaghan Government collapsed. Such a law is again part of Labour's package of commitments. Will it withstand the heat of office? The waverings over child benefit may, unfortunately, give us a hint.





## THE WRONG STEP

A troubling message to those in Ulster who trust democracy

In choosing a Dublin newspaper to unveil the latest development in his Northern Ireland policy yesterday, the Prime Minister saw to it that his article dropped onto the doorstep of only a few thousand British citizens. But the readership John Major wished to reach was even smaller than that. The Prime Minister's article in *The Irish Times* was addressed to the leadership of the Irish republican movement and intended to encourage a new IRA ceasefire. His efforts to end republican violence are understandable but the wisdom of his current approach must be questioned.

In the immediate aftermath of the Docklands bomb both the British and the Irish Governments maintained that progress in Ulster would not be stopped. The IRA's decision was tragic, it was argued, but Sinn Féin would be the losers: republicans, by choosing violence, had excluded themselves from negotiations and any influence over new political structures in Ulster.

In reality, both London and Dublin have danced to the republican flute. They have placed courting the IRA above attempting to make progress without it. Fergus Finlay, right-hand man to the Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring, declared that talks without Sinn Féin would "not be worth a penny candle" and, at a stroke, revealed that Dublin believed the republicans had an effective veto on progress. Last month Mr Spring unveiled plans to deal with the decommissioning of terrorist weapons separately from, rather than before, political talks. He believed that was the minimum necessary adjustment to ensure that there was another IRA ceasefire. He was, however, conceding another point to the republicans and providing ammunition to those within the IRA who argue that the armed struggle gets results.

Mr Major's article can be interpreted

ambiguously but his aim seems clear. Without going so far as to endorse Mr Spring's plan, the Prime Minister is signalling to Sinn Féin that decommissioning can be finessed if a new ceasefire is called. Taken along with the transfer of the IRA terrorist Patrick Kelly to an Irish jail and British Government support for the Irish language in Belfast, the article is the most significant part of a campaign to court republicans. Security sources believe the republican leadership is engaged in intense debate on its next move and the Government hopes it can nudge the IRA to a new ceasefire.

Mr Major's approach is fraught with difficulties. All the attempts by London and Dublin to address republican concerns only reinforce the impression that IRA violence drives political developments. Republicans can afford to look cynically at any suggestion that they are locking themselves out if they do not call a ceasefire before talks begin on June 10. They know that they can call a ceasefire at any time, enter talks without giving up a bullet and reserve the capacity to return to violence. Dublin officials argue that once in talks it will be hard for republicans to bomb again. But, given what they have gained by the bomb, republicans will feel little compunction in resuming slaughter if their goals are not met.

Mr Major's efforts may very well not lead to any ceasefire. If there is one, it is certain to be tactical. But while he makes his overtures to the IRA, his own party grows restive and the representatives of the democratic majority in Northern Ireland grow suspicious. It is to the credit of the Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble that he has reacted cautiously to Mr Major's words. His community requires reassurance from the Government. Those who place their faith in democracy should not be made to feel that those who subvert it are in control.

## THE FULL-TIME CANDIDATE

Dole's decision is dangerous but a good risk

The pundits of Washington DC have been shocked by the departure from the Senate of Bob Dole. All their varying interests were fixed on the failure of his presidential campaign: right-wing Republicans enjoyed themselves attacking his moderation while Democrats gloried in President Clinton's lead in the polls. Few expected so dramatic a move by Mr Dole to pull himself out of the mire.

For a Senate majority leader of Mr Dole's standing to leave his power base brings high risks for the possibility of his high returns. If the basis on which he has made his gamble proves sound, then the decision could be the turning point of the whole campaign. If not, he can content himself that he went down with guns blazing.

Dole campaigners made three assumptions. They believed that the Washington perception of his candidacy as stuck in a rut was both accurate and becoming more so. They decided that there was little point in relinquishing his post as majority leader while remaining in the Senate: he had either to run from his position or stand outside. Finally, the Republicans accepted that they could not frame the contest in the manner that they wanted as matters stood. If the election was a referendum on Mr Clinton or Mr Dole as public personalities, or liberalism and conservatism as political philosophies, their man could win. On the other hand, if it was cast as a popularity contest between Mr Clinton and the Republican Congress dominated by Newt Gingrich, down the President was a solid prospect for re-election.

Mr Dole appears to have wagered that his dramatic exit from the Senate would not be seen as an act of desperation; that it would seize the popular imagination and restore

purpose and enthusiasm to his campaign. Despite his impoverished campaign finances and laws which prevent him raising more money until after the Republican national convention in August, he hopes he can use media interest and money from other sources to run a professional performance over the next three months. This is perhaps the biggest risk in his repertoire. He then needs to make personal character the central theme of the contest. He must hope that his natural advantages on this score will be helped by his willingness to lay down a much-loved office and the dignified manner in which he did so. He badly needs to revive at least some part of the conservative Republican support and attract those otherwise enticed by Ross Perot. Otherwise, it may prove impossible for him to escape association with Mr Gingrich and Capitol Hill.

Mr Dole now leaves Washington much earlier than expected. He has chosen his preferred means and field of battle. He will take his case to the American people. Some argue that his cause is doomed because he looks such a poor campaigner when compared with the President. This may prove true but it presumes that the sick will always triumph over the sincere. Mr Dole is not an inspiring speaker, although he was effective in his announcement on Wednesday. He does, however, have the type of compelling personal story — poverty, adversity, heroism — which voters like. He has been an accomplished leader in the Senate. In his own inarticulate way he stands for the tenets of American conservatism. His audacious move may come to nothing or even be seen in retrospect as mistaken. But it demonstrates that he has at least some of the right stuff to be President.

## FAIR EXCHANGES

Feed your French friend well: he may become President

It was 46 years since they last met but time, it seemed, had only deepened the warmth of their greeting. When Jacques Chirac saw John King at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, the two men returned immediately to their boyhood — to the time when, as tongue-tied teenagers, they played tennis, explored the postwar austerity of Paris and Rochester and stumbled through each other's languages during their summer exchanges.

Britain owes a debt to the King family: their warm reception of the French lad may have left lasting legacies. The boy who became his country's President never forgot his English, the Tyneside visit by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, and the island to which he was to return in splendour half a century later.

It could have been so disastrously different. How many hundreds of families breathe a massive sigh of relief after the summer exchange and swear never again? The horror stories pass into family folklore: the time that Nicole slipped away after the picnic and was found, hours later, in the Dog and Fox surrounded by lascivious likely lads; Sarah's bewilderment at being thrust into a family evening of fast-talking Parisian aunts and uncles; Luc's insistence that all English food was *dégoûtante*; and Andrew's boredom at finding no discos, no pubs and no girls who spoke English in the remote Brittany village.

Children grow up, but the anti-French or

anti-British prejudice formed at 15 can be just as strong 30 years later. So both the French and the British have an interest in promoting happy exchanges. There is much they cannot control: the weather, the food, the homesickness, the tendency of teenagers to be surly and withdrawn or determined to have as much fun as possible with the opposite sex. But local authorities, teachers and town twinning officials can do much to match families, neighbourhoods, schools and pupils with tact and common sense.

Anglo-French exchanges are the most intensive in Europe, with about 250,000 pupils of each country spending time in the other each year. This is far more than the numbers going to Germany, despite the money and effort spent by Bonn to lure young people there. The reason, of course, is language: English remains overwhelmingly the first foreign language in France and French — though it might be hard to guess from results — is the only language that Britons make any effort to learn.

Numbers have fallen in the past year. But John Major and President Chirac promised to reverse the fall by announcing new school partnerships for which the Government is ready to contribute £1 million over the next four years. The message for all those British families dreading the arrival of the young DuPont boy this summer is: make an effort, feed him well, keep him happy: for in 40 years' time you may find your hospitality repaid in the Elysée.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Regulator's proposals and their effects on British Gas

From Mr A. J. Perry

Sir, Simon Jenkins (article, May 15) highlights that the regulators of the privatised utilities are accountable to no one. That was the essence of the structure: they were not to be subject to (overt) political direction, but only to generalised duties set out in the privatisation Acts.

There may have been an expectation that the "price cap" privatisation model would avoid the detailed hands-on control that was the evil of the nationalised industries. But price capping controls, within limits, the major cash inflow of the company. It cannot be set in a vacuum, but has to be related to the major cash outflows that the regulator deems reasonable. Hence, the regulator must take a view about operating costs and efficiency, the amount of capital investment, and how this is to be financed and the cost of finance: ie to model the companies' accounts, and for a period of future years. This was not a "hidden assumption", as Jenkins puts it, but a consequence of the type of regulation — and probably unavoidable with any effective regulation of monopolies.

Perhaps initially it was expected that the regulators would need to carry out only periodic reviews of the price cap, the companies having freedom to manage between reviews. In fact, many events generated by the companies and by external factors, eg takeovers, have required the regulators to intervene more frequently.

Another issue of concern is that the utilities provide an essential infrastructure for industry, as well as the domestic consumer. But neither Parliament nor the public knows whether the decisions that have been made by the companies and the regulators are providing the investment necessary for the future competitiveness of British industry and the prosperity of the country.

Yours sincerely,  
A. J. PERRY,  
Savanna, Park View Road,  
Wokingham, Surrey,  
May 15.

From Mr Harry Hornsby

Sir, To add to Simon Jenkins's perceptive article today, the disincentive to management resulting from draconian measures such as these by utility regulators will be profound. No longer will there be financial reward to a

company for successful innovation and productivity gains, as it can be wiped out at a stroke by the regulator; similarly, there will be no point in competing for business or taking other risks. The regulator is now an even more powerful threat to a utility than Parliament, for the latter must pass an Act to create, for example, a windfall tax, while the regulator needs no such approval.

I fear that management will be more interested in the preservation of their jobs than in progress or profit — a return, in effect, to the attitudes of nationalised industry. Ultimately this must be to the disadvantage of consumers who can expect higher costs and a reduction in service.

Clearly regulation is in a mess. The system needs urgent revision before damage is done to these crucial industries.

Yours faithfully,  
HARRY HORNSBY,  
Little Paddock,  
20 Waterford Lane,  
Lymington, Hampshire,  
May 15.

From Mr Granville Davies

Sir, If British Gas is to be effectively renationalised through the intervention of the Ofgas regulator, as Pennington suggests today, can the little Sids like me rely on the City regulators to take action against the Government for misleading us in 1986 to invest in what we were led to believe would be a private enterprise?

This must surely work against the original Conservative concept of a shareholding democracy, even if the discouragement of small investors with their disproportionate servicing costs suits the current policy of British Gas.

Yours,  
GRANVILLE DAVIES,  
5 Warren Wood,  
Warren Road,  
Crowborough, East Sussex,  
May 14.

From Mr Lewis Stretch

Sir, The main responsibility for this latest nonsense lies on the Government, for introducing an inherently unstable system of controlling utilities. Yet anyone with any experience of gas transmission systems must challenge Ofgas's claim that the regulator's policy of swinging and success-

sive cuts will have no effect on standards of service and safety. As the level of complaints last year showed, steadily reducing manpower to satisfy arbitrary financial targets leaves any service incapable of meeting exceptional conditions or situations.

The most intriguing aspect of this case to any engineer is that Ofgas is promoting the bad practices of the former water and sewage authorities, who kept prices down by failing to maintain their infrastructures. The cost of that folly is now becoming apparent; and it is important to realise that, as my first problem at the Gas Council — the Roman Point tower block disaster in 1968 (there were even more serious incidents overseas) — illustrated, gas leaks are even more dangerous than water ones.

Yours faithfully,  
LEWIS STRETCH  
(Director, Research & Development,  
Gas Council, 1969-71),  
3 Larc Close,  
Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire,  
May 15.

From the Director, National Energy Action

Sir, Far from being the response of caring utilities to the needs of low-income consumers as Pennington suggests (May 9), prepayment meters primarily benefit the supplier by maintaining consumption and payment whilst collecting any existing debt.

If consumer benefit were a priority, utilities would not impose the surcharge on prepayment customers which typically requires them to pay at least 5 per cent more for fuel than customers using other payment methods — an unusual manifestation of a "socially sensitive" approach.

At present some 4 million consumers use prepayment meters to pay for fuel consumption. Many of these consumers face regular disconnection from supply, not through the actions of the utilities but through poverty. Prepayment meters are not a solution — they are indicators of a serious social problem.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREA COOK,  
Director,  
National Energy Action,  
St Andrew's House,  
90-92 Pilgrim Street,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
May 15.

from compulsory acts of worship. It is no wonder to me that my daughter has not quite mastered reading yet.

We should stop vilifying those professionals who choose to work in difficult inner-city schools, recognise their dedication, and campaign for the funds they need desperately to resource a sensible teacher/pupil ratio at infant level.

Yours,  
SHONA KELLY,  
82 Lansdowne Drive, E8,  
May 11.

From Mrs Elizabeth Morrison

Sir, When I went as governess to Little King Faisal of Iraq in 1940 I took with me a copy of the splendid *Reading Without Tears*, written by Mrs Favel Lee Mortimer in 1887.

In a few weeks he wrote "I have got a car, to smelt horses pool the car". Efforts need not be made to make the learning of reading so attractive to children; they can always be read to. Rather it should become a necessary daily routine, like getting dressed or finishing food. Correct spelling and enjoyment come later.

Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH MORRISON,  
Granhams,  
Great Shelford, Cambridge.

from the Government's continued use of forced labour on road, rail and other infrastructural projects. For this reason Human Rights Watch calls on companies not to invest there.

Ms Pitman claims that "international Coca Cola culture has already arrived in Burma". To the contrary, Coca Cola itself has refused to invest in Burma, citing human rights concerns. Their rival, Pepsi-Co, was last month forced, under pressure from American students, to sell its shares in its Burmese subsidiary.

British companies should also be aware that the EC is currently investigating the use of forced labour in Burma, with a view to withdrawing the preferential import tariffs which Burma currently enjoys as a developing country.

Yours sincerely,  
ZUNETTA LIDDELL,  
Human Rights Watch/Asia,  
33 Islington High Street, N1,  
May 14.

### Investing in Burma

From Ms Zusetta Liddell

Sir, Joanna Pitman, in her article today, "British business marches slowly back on the road to Mandalay", describes the growth, albeit slow, of UK companies investing in Burma. May I draw your attention to her own Magazine article of March 2, quoting opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi (whose party took 82 per cent of the seats in the 1990 election but to whom the military has refused to transfer power):

The British approach is certainly not something one could ever be proud of. These people are hurrying to make easy little business deals while pretending that nothing is wrong. They need to be reminded that this is one of the most brutal military regimes in the world and putting money into the country now is simply supporting a system that is severely harmful to the people of Burma.

No investment in Burma today can avoid directly or indirectly benefiting

### A little night music

From Mr Gerald Kaufman, MP for Manchester, Gorton (Labour)

Sir, What chaptrap Nicholas Kenyon writes (letter, May 15) about his new, downmarket Radio 3.

He talks about its "informed, approachable style of presentation". Informed? Is he referring to the factual errors in which, for example, a Beethoven piano concerto is given the wrong number? Or the mispronunciation, as when Sergei Prokofiev's first name is made to sound like a type of fabric?

Approachable? Can he possibly be

alluding to the almost incessant banal chatter by "presenters", interrupted by the further banal chatter purveyed by recorded trailers for other infuriating programmes?

Most questionable of all is Mr Kenyon's claim that this degradation of Radio 3 has been inflicted because it "draws in listeners who might not otherwise listen to the channel". The fact is that the audience for this jarring Radio 3 has actually been falling.

Yours sincerely,  
GERALD KAUFMAN,  
House of Commons,  
May 15.

### Children's diet in the 'muesli belt'

From Mr J. A. Clewett

Sir, I applaud the general thrust of Dr Stuttaford's article regarding the starvation diets which increasingly health-conscious parents are inflicting upon their children ("Muesli-belt diet causes danger across all classes", Medical Briefing, May 13). However, I must take Dr Stuttaford to task over his statement that "when children's teeth decay it is not because they eat jam roly-poly or treacle tart... but because they haven't brushed their teeth properly".

The cause of tooth decay is sugar. Tooth-brushing alone will not effectively reduce decay, since most people only brush their teeth once or twice a day and the toothbrush is physically incapable of cleansing the narrow fissures and contact points between teeth where carious attack generally begins. The anti-caries effect of fluoride in toothpaste is not helping the 13 per cent of North Wales five-year-olds who have dental extractions under general anaesthesia each year.

The Scientific Basis of Dental Health Education, published by the Health Education Authority, provides definitive advice which is endorsed by the dental profession: limit sugar intake to meal times. Avoid sugary snacks or beverages between meals but at meal times, go on, enjoy yourself.

Yours sincerely,  
J. A. CLEWETT  
(Deputy Director of Dental Services),  
Clwydian Community Care,  
Catherine Gladstone House,  
Hawarden Way, Manxot, Deeside,  
May 14.

From Mr Robert Howe

Sir, Thank goodness for the common sense of Dr Thomas Stuttaford, who draws long overdue attention to the widespread malnutrition of children by overly health-conscious parents. As a teacher of 7 to 11-year-olds, I would like to add that not only are these parents compromising their children's physical development by eliminating essential fats and proteins — they are risking the youngsters' mental health by making them afraid of food.

Too often children are encouraged by their parents to be suspicious and anxious, ever vigilant lest some unscrupulous cook attempts to poison them by offering something awful, like baked beans containing sugar. Such artificial anxiety is, I believe, incompatible with a healthy, happy and carefree childhood.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT HOWE,  
Crackenthorp, Skinburness,  
Carlisle, Cumbria,  
May 13.

### Nietzsche at St Paul's

From the Dean of St Paul's

Sir, Richard Morrison's somewhat in-temperate article ("Death of God? No problem with us", Arts, May 11) is a preview of Delius's *A Mass of Life*, to be sung in German in St Paul's Cathedral on July 3.

Mr Morrison appears not to understand Nietzsche's text as it is set by Delius in this work. The Dean and Chapter have read this carefully and we find there is nothing in these words of Nietzsche which specifically "pours scorn on the central concepts of Christianity" (the terms used in the City of London Festival brochure to describe Nietzsche's *Also sprach Zarathustra*, from which Delius drew his text).

Although by no means Christian, the text is simply an affirmation of the joy of life and its renewal. Since this is not a service of Christian worship but a concert organised by the City of London Festival, the Dean and Chapter felt its performance in St Paul's was acceptable.

Yours etc,  
ERIC EVANS,  
The Deanery, 9 Amen Court, EC4,  
May 13.

### Food for thought

From Dr Mary P. E. Agass

Sir, During a visit to Bangkok two weeks ago, my hotel was offering fresh European (Dutch) asparagus on its menu. On my return to Oxford, I discovered equally succulent bunches of Thai asparagus on sale in my local supermarket. This is despite the fact that local English asparagus is now available.

Is the transportation of perishable, luxury food around the globe the most sensible use of the world's limited oil reserves?

Yours faithfully,  
MARY P. E. AGASS,  
Hampton House, Clifton Hampden,  
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

### High society

From Professor Emeritus Edward Garden

Sir, Although the names of so many great composers begin with early letters of the alphabet (Jenens, May 7, 11, 14, 15), especially B., this did not worry Wagner. He merely turned the musical world upside down.

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD GARDEN,  
Balchraggan Farm House,  
Kirkhill, Inverness.

Business letters, page 29  
Sports letters, page 44

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.







OBITUARIES

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL CALVIN WALLER

Lieutenant-General Calvin Waller, deputy commander-in-chief of US forces during the Gulf War, died of a heart attack in Washington on May 9 aged 58. He was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on December 17, 1937.



HIS HON ANTHONY BULGER

His Honour Anthony Bulger, former County Court and Circuit Judge, died on May 5 aged 83. He was born on October 5, 1912.



TONY BULGER was Britain's longest-serving circuit judge on his retirement in 1986. He presided for 14 years at Gloucester Crown Court, where he was widely respected for his robust and common-sense approach. Although not a brilliant lawyer, Bulger's sense of fairness and decency meant that he usually got the right result.

Bulger was fond of telling counsel to "grasp the nettle". He liked to get down to the nitty-gritty in each case and was rarely impressed by clever legal argument. When it came to summing up, he was skilful at booting technical submissions into touch and steering the jury towards the right verdict on the facts.

In the well-known case of *Binions v Evans* (1972), which involved a widow's right to remain in a tied cottage after it was sold, Bulger, as usual, concentrated on equity. The old lady stayed put. In the Court of Appeal, Lord Denning said that he agreed with Bulger "entirely", while another appeal judge said that happily the law was "what it ought to be".

Never afraid to demonstrate his feelings, Bulger could get very grumpy if he felt restricted by the fine detail of the statute books. Though in many ways unpretentious and sensible, he could also be quite forthright and earned himself a reputation for colourful off-the-cuff remarks.

In 1974 in Gloucester Divorce Court he reprimanded a woman petitioner for wearing a lacy, lemon-coloured, almost transparent trouser-suit. "I dislike women wearing trousers in court," he told her. When she remarked that it was her first time in court, Bulger came back with the retort: "It's not like coming to a funeral." He ignored the woman's offer to take her trousers off for the remainder of her hearing — though that saucy reaction on her part perhaps vindicated his original objection.

On another occasion, Bulger asked prison officials to stop cooking during court sittings as the smell of liver and onions which wafted up from the cells below court was putting him off. He also raised

eyebrows by his reference to a blackmail case as "piddling" and upset local mental health workers in Gloucester when he asked a defendant if he wanted to end up "in a loony bin".

Anthony Clare Bulger was born in Hertfordshire. His father died prematurely and he and his sister were brought up by their mother, an intrepid traveller, who would take them off to places such as Yugoslavia and Turkey for summer holidays. Educated at Rugby and Oriel College, Oxford, where he read law, he was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1936.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Bulger gained a commission in the 27th Lancers. He fought with the Eighth Army through North Africa and Italy, where he was wounded at Monte Cassino, and then on into Austria. He was mentioned in dispatches and rose to the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

After the war, Bulger returned to Sir Neil Lawson's chambers at 1 Harcourt Buildings, Middle Temple, but soon moved with his family to live at Fortampton in Gloucestershire. His practice as a barrister consisted of general common law, mainly on the old Oxford Circuit. He served as Recorder of Abingdon, 1962-63, having already been appointed deputy chairman of the Oxfordshire Quarter Sessions in 1958 and becoming

deputy chairman of the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions in 1962. He was chairman of the Gloucestershire Quarter Sessions from 1970 until the Beeching Crown

Court system was introduced in 1972, when he became Gloucester's first presiding judge.

Bulger was charming and helpful on the bench, particularly to young barristers. He hated long-winded and pompous counsel, however, and would often intervene to cut out the waffle. On entering court, Bulger would give a little wave to the jury as well as to a tramp named Raymond who frequented the public gallery. He liked to get a move on, and would often begin sentencing defendants before he had sat down. His tendency to move on to the next grammatical sentence before finishing the previous one made him the bane of short-hand writers.

Bulger was very much a countryman. He was chairman of the Ledbury Hunt and had hunted in his youth, foxes mainly but also chamois during the war in Austria. He was a good shot, and enjoyed fishing. He was also fond of the turf, and had a box at Cheltenham. During Gold Cup week he would get through his list with noticeable alacrity.

Although a Roman Catholic, Bulger was ecumenical in his churchgoing habits. A jolly, clubbable man, he was well liked by a broad spectrum of the Gloucestershire community, for whom he represented one of the last links with the old Oxford Circuit. He will be missed at the first reunion dinner of that circuit this autumn.

Bulger's wife Una predeceased him. He is survived by his son and daughter.

deliver results in spite of the tempests that frequently blew about it.

Calvin Augustine Hoffman Waller grew up in an impoverished back-ground in America's Deep South. As he was later to say, as an American black his opportunities were "either postman or teacher" or going into the Army. Having decided on the third option he had intended to stay only three years and then get out and take himself to veterinary school on the GI Bill.

But after going to the Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, he found that he was beginning to enjoy army life. After graduating from Prairie View A & M University in 1959, he climbed steadily through the ranks with extended service in Korea before being posted to the General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1962.

In May 1969 Waller was sent to Vietnam on a 12-month posting as a chemical operations officer. It was an experience which gave him an acute insight into the morale problems caused by confusion at the higher levels of command as to objectives and methods. Like Schwarzkopf, who did two tours of duty in Vietnam, he was one of that generation of officers who were at first disillusioned by the massive defeats they could see in the US Army at all levels, and then realised that there was nothing essentially wrong with the fighting qualities of the American soldier. Both men worked hard to create what had become, by the beginning of the 1980s, a force whose calibre and morale matched its size and the quality of its equipment.

After his return from Vietnam Waller served in a variety of administrative posts in the United States and Europe, becoming Commander of the US 8th Infantry Division in Germany in 1987. By this time the US Army was unrecognisable from the scarred and demoralised force of the 1970s. Next he was Commanding General of the 1st Corps at Fort Lewis, Washington, a post which gave him responsibility for more than 100,000 personnel. By the time he was made Schwarzkopf's deputy in the Gulf, therefore, he had wide experience of command and staff appointments, and knew a good deal about combat.

Although it was assumed that Waller's appointment had been approved by the Defence Secretary, Dick Cheney, specifically to give some counter-balance to the ferocious passions that were apt to be unleashed when Schwarzkopf was on the warpath, Waller enjoyed his boss's complete trust. Although Schwarzkopf enjoyed "scaring the sh\*\* out of people", he knew he did not frighten his soft-spoken but tough deputy. "He could walk into my office and say point-blank, 'Hey, something's all screwed up, it's your fault and you need to know about it,'" Schwarzkopf recalled approvingly of Waller in his memoirs.

Indeed, when it came to action, Waller lacked nothing of the aggression of his chief. When on the second day of the ground campaign Schwarzkopf expressed some surprise at the apparently slow progress of US VII Corps, Waller expostulated, "Goddamit Sir, we've gotta make 'em move out" and, seizing a phone, was prepared to give the corps commander

a personal rocket. Schwarzkopf was compelled to remind him he was no longer commander of the Third Army and urged him to show restraint. Waller need not have become so worked up. In the event Operation Desert Storm was a crushing defeat for the Iraqi Army, ending on February 28, 1991, after only a hundred hours of fighting. Coalition casualties were so low that they astonished him. Sixty thousand Iraqi prisoners were taken, against a PoW count of fewer than fifty.

Like Schwarzkopf, Waller retired from the Army before the year was out. In some quarters his leaving at the comparatively early age of 53 was seen as a reflection of his dissatisfaction with the way in which the Bush Administration had conducted the Gulf War. The impression was strengthened when Waller became one of a group of senior officers who endorsed Bill Clinton in his 1992 presidential campaign. Waller was soon to disagree with President Clinton, however, over the latter's attempt to allow homosexuals to serve in the armed forces; he told the Senate Armed Forces Committee that this would lead to a "second-rate force".

After his retirement, Waller moved to Denver and served as president and chief executive officer of RSK, an environmental technology company. He later joined ICF Kaiser Environmental, an energy group, as senior vice-president, and was in charge of the company's Rocky Flats environmental technology site at the time of his death.

Calvin Waller is survived by his wife Marion, and by two sons.

DONALD EDGAR

Donald Edgar, journalist, died on May 12 aged 79. He was born on June 26, 1916.

DONALD EDGAR was the journalist who, perhaps more than any other, reintroduced his readers to the pleasures of peace and plenty after war and austerity. As a columnist of Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express*, he wrote in the first half of the 1950s — between the Festival of Britain and the coming of rock and roll. But although he did turn his attention to such as Lady Dore, Gilbert Harding and the wedding of Grace Kelly to Prince Philip, he was also to Prince Vittorio

Massimo, his reports were usually his own urbane, discursive impressions of, say, Henley Royal Regatta, the launch of a ship, watching ballet, flying in the Comet or an unexpectedly critical look at the ethos of Gordonstoun.

Donald Edgar was born in London and educated at Dulwich College. Starting work in the City, he passed his evenings at the City Literary Institute or a Territorial Army drill-hall. Mobilised in 1939, he was an infantry sergeant with the 51st Highland Division when taken prisoner at St Valery in 1940. After five years as a prisoner of war in Poland and Czechoslovakia, he returned home to be awarded a

two-year scholarship at Oriel College, Oxford.

In 1947 he became a journalist in Fleet Street, first on the "Peterborough" column of the *Daily Telegraph* and then as editor of the *Daily Mail's* diary column, then named *Who? Why? Where?*, but refashioned round Edgar, whose *nom de plume* was "Paul Tanfield". On the whole he was kindly and not intrusive but he succeeded in annoying John Osborne, who was said to have written his play *The World of Paul Slickey* about the gossip columnist he imagined Edgar to be.

In the early 1950s, Edgar was engaged by Arthur

Christiansen, the Editor of the *Daily Express*, and his report of the Coronation made his name. In the robing room of the Abbey, he noted details of the behaviour and conversation of the famous as they awaited their entrances; he also sighted the first evidence of the love between Princess Margaret and Peter Townsend, when he saw her smilingly brush a piece of fluff from the Group Captain's uniform.

The verve of his reporting led to him being given the "William Hickey" byline, which had hitherto been used only by Tom Driberg, who had gone into politics. With only one assistant, a burly young man who prompted the

nicknaming of the pair "Poet and Peasant", Edgar himself wrote almost daily. His column was often a single account of an experience, seen through a fresh and highly individual eye: a meal with a celebrity, going to the races, attendance at some ceremonial occasion, or just the passing scene. He could be effusive: "Oh, London! I was drunk with the joy of you yesterday. Drunk with the bliss of being alive in London in May. It is a city of blossom and fresh green leaf. A city of sunshine and massed tulips. And also this week a city of expectancy..." It was he who said that the King's Road in Chelsea was to become the highway of a new youth culture.

Edgar's column caught the wide-eyed expectancy of post-war Britain. Lord Beaverbrook was delighted by it. Christiansen telling Edgar: "He said you seemed to be having a wonderful time meeting all these people and that the enjoyment came through. He said you were the first columnist he had had who seemed to like people. To tell you the truth, I was surprised the old man liked you liking people."

For a journalist as highly-strung and hard-working as Edgar, there were bound to be occasional problems and several changes of job. In 1956 he



became a foreign correspondent, reporting Cyprus terrorism and then covering the assault on Suez, before returning to the "Hickey" column as head of a team of journalists. Moving to the *Evening Standard*, he continued as a roving correspondent, reporting the war in Algeria and the build-

ing of the Berlin Wall, before becoming a memorable editor of the "Londoner's Diary", where he was to be remembered for his patient instruction of young reporters.

A tall, good-looking man with emotions close to the surface, he was one of those sociable, versatile journalists

bred in Fleet Street when it was the craft-street of the newspaper trade. Like some of the best Beaverbrook journalists, he supported the Labour Party.

He left Fleet Street in the 1960s to go into public relations for Texaco, then engaged in exploration for oil in the North Sea. After his retirement, he lived quietly with his wife Rosalie in their Chelsea flat and, unlike some high-maintenance journalists of his time, did not find leisure a problem.

He wrote a number of books about London and the Royal Family and four volumes of memoirs. Having learnt German and Russian while a prisoner of war, he put the languages to good use, studying German and Russian history, literature and music, and always had some intellectual project in hand. No longer the affable columnist, he enjoyed simple pleasures, once telling a friend that he and his wife had just been spending a magical day, which turned out to have been a visit to a local park in spring.

Edgar suffered and overcame with courage and optimism two major ailments before his last, short, illness. Friends of his Fleet Street years, seeing him in old age, would be astonished by his activity of mind.

He is survived by his wife and daughter.

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LAB ANIMALS NEED YOUR HELP!

The little monkey pictured here is beyond help. What was left of him after the "researchers" were through has long been misused, along with the remains of countless other innocent victims of the vivisection laboratory. Call 01476 74111.

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A TELEPHONE EXPERIMENT

THE AUTOMATIC SYSTEM AT EPSOM

Practically everything is in readiness at Epsom for the automatic telephone experiment. The new system will come into operation. This is the first experiment of its kind in Great Britain, and the Post Office authorities are confident that it will prove a great success in this country as it has done in America, Canada, and other countries.

Each of the subscribers in Epsom will, under the new system, be able to ring up another Epsom subscriber direct without having to give the number required to the local exchange. To each subscriber's telephone is affixed a calling dial with two discs, one about an inch above the other. The lower, a fixed one, bears figures, and the upper, a movable one, has holes. A finger inserted in one of these holes will be over a figure on the lower disc, and the finger has to be inserted in the hole corresponding to the digit to be signalled. The movable disc has then to be turned round as far as possible for each digit to be signalled, the subscriber having to allow the disc to come to rest before signalling a fresh digit. If the required subscriber's line is engaged an

ON THIS DAY

May 17, 1912

In this experiment 320 telephone subscribers in Epsom were able to dial other numbers in the town themselves instead of having to ask the operator to get the number for them.

intermittent buzz will, as at present, indicate the fact. An Epsom subscriber to ring up a subscriber in the London telephone area outside Epsom has to signal a specified number. It is 15 for the City, 17 for the Thames Valley, and 16 for South London. Having signalled the number, he waits for the operator, to whom he gives the number he wants and his own number. For a trunk call "0" has to be signalled, the reply to the operator being the number required and the subscriber's number. Under the automatic system the services of a large number of the girl operators are dispensed with, but it

remains to be proved whether the cost of maintenance under the new system will be higher than under the old one.

THE PARIS BANDITS

An earlier report in the Times had described how the stronghold of the "motor-car bandits" had been stormed after a nine-hour siege and three ring-leaders shot.

There has been a good deal of criticism of the sensational circumstances of the siege of the bandits at Nogent-sur-Marne. M. Guichard, Chief of the Detective Service, points out that, although there were 400 Zouaves and 300 policemen on the scene on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, their presence was required to preserve order in consequence of the great crowds of spectators that had assembled.

Indeed, the forces of order were insufficient to cope with the multitude, since after the destruction of the bandits and their lair people invaded the ruins of the villa and plundered in order to obtain souvenirs. In the rush three of the bullet-proof shields of the police disappeared.







BUSINESS 29

Brewer regards Chinese market as no small beer

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# THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY MAY 17 1996

## Alfred McAlpine directors arrested in Revenue raid

BY CLARE STEWART AND ROBERT MILLER

TWO board directors of Alfred McAlpine, the construction group, were arrested yesterday morning in an Inland Revenue swoop on two of the company's offices, in which a number of documents were seized.

Eric Grove, a non-executive director, and Graeme McCallum, managing director of the homes division, were arrested, as was Derek Green, a self-employed investment consul-

tant with Gerrard Vivian Gray, a leading private client stockbroker. A spokeswoman for the Inland Revenue said: "We visited a number of premises in London and the Midlands and three arrests were made by the police. The three men were arrested on charge of conspiracy to commit false accounting."

The investigation into the three men was led by the Special Compliance Office, an executive arm of the Inland Revenue, using powers granted under Section 20c of the

Taxes Management Act. Such powers are used rarely. The special tax investigators have to persuade the Board of the Inland Revenue of the strength of their case before going to a judge to seek search warrants. The Revenue charges relate solely to personal affairs of the three men. A statement by the construction company said the Revenue's raid "is not in any way related to the business or tax position of Alfred McAlpine PLC or any of its subsidiaries".

Mr Grove, 66, a property developer living at Lapworth, near Solihull, is a multi-millionaire and a former director of Coventry City Football Club, of which he is president. He holds the second-largest stake in Alfred McAlpine and has a holding of just over 14 per cent, including non-beneficial shares, worth £17.3 million at yesterday's closing price. Mr Grove acquired his stake after selling his housebuilding business, Canberra, to Alfred McAlpine in 1988 for more than £25 million. In the year to December last year, he earned £208,000 as a non-executive director.

### BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FT-SE 100	3753.6	(-22.8)
FT-SE All-Share	1886.59	(-9.34)
Nikkei	22147.21	(+91.24)
New York	8620.84	(-4.80)
S&P Composite	953.53	(-1.58)
US RATES		
Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	88 1/2%	(88 1/2%)
Yield	6.90%	(6.94%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-month bank bill	6 1/4%	(6 1/4%)
Libor 3m	105 1/2	(105 1/2)
STERLING		
New York	1.5138	(1.5138)
London	1.5117	(1.5117)
DM	2.3221	(2.3212)
FF	7.8651	(7.8594)
Sfr	1.3257	(1.3257)
Yen	161.23	(161.68)
£ Index	84.5	(84.5)
DOLLAR		
London	1.5340	(1.5330)
DM	6.1340	(6.1315)
Sfr	1.2572	(1.2571)
Yen	106.62	(106.92)
£ Index	87.0	(86.8)
Tokyo close Yen	108.78	
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Jul)	\$17.80	(\$18.55)
GOLD		
London close	\$381.85	(\$382.70)
* denotes midday trading price		

## Pattullo quits Standard Life

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

SIR Bruce Pattullo, governor of the Bank of Scotland, has resigned abruptly from the board of Standard Life just four days after the insurer confirmed that it was planning to sell its 32.2 per cent stake in the bank.

His departure came as a surprise to Standard Life, one of Britain's biggest institutional investors and insurance houses. He has been a non-executive director on Standard Life's board since 1985 when the insurer bought the stake from Barclays for £155 million.

He is believed to have been angered by the way the announcement was made, and by the insurer's decision to sell such a large stake at short notice. The sale effectively makes the bank a target for a hostile takeover bid.

Standard Life expressed surprise at the move. "We had no idea he was going, and he was absolutely not asked to leave by us," a spokeswoman said. His replacement will be considered at the next board meeting at the end of the month.

The Bank of Scotland said if Sir Bruce had continued to hold a seat on Standard Life's board there would have been "a conflict of interest". He had therefore decided to resign with immediate effect. "Better that he resign now than excuse himself from the next board meeting," a spokesman said. "It makes things difficult when Standard Life is reviewing its own options on its stakeholding." The bank is now at Standard Life's mercy and it is believed that Sir Bruce felt that he could no longer act as a board member for Standard Life while the insurer was looking for the

highest bidder for its stake in the bank. Standard Life said it had decided to sell the stake because it represented 6 per cent of its UK equity holdings and was a disproportionately large amount.

Scott Bell, Standard Life's group managing director, and Norman Lesseis, chairman, are both on the board of the Bank of Scotland. There was speculation yesterday that one or both may also resign.

In his resignation letter to Mr Lesseis, Sir Bruce, 58, who has been with the bank for more than 30 years, said he would "continue to work constructively with Standard Life in order to find an acceptable solution if Standard Life decide to sell some or all of their shareholding in the Bank".

Sir Bruce's resignation follows Standard Life's statement on Monday that it was planning to sell its £900 million stake in the 300-year-old Scottish bank. Standard Life has denied that it intends to use the cash to underpin a stock-market flotation. It may buy a building society or build up overseas interests in order to maintain its independence.

Although a placing of the shares is possible, the proposed sale of the 32.2 per cent stake does leave the bank vulnerable to takeover; potential predators have been named as HSBC, Midland Bank's parent, Abbey National and Halifax Building Society.

Alex Salmond, Scottish National Party leader and a former oil analyst at the Royal Bank of Scotland, yesterday called for the takeover to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.



Sir Bruce is thought to have been angered by the insurer's decision to sell its 32 per cent stake

## Mortgage moves help inflation to hit 18-month low

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

HEADLINE inflation fell to its lowest level for 18 months in April in spite of a surge in prices for alternatives to beef after the "mad-cow" scare, and economists said that they believed it was set to fall further in the months ahead.

The retail prices index rose 0.7 per cent in the month, but its annual rate fell to 2.4 per cent, from 2.7 per cent, according to the Office for National Statistics. However, the underlying inflation rate, which the Government aims to bring down to 2.5 per cent or less, held unchanged in April at 2.9 per cent.

The fall in the headline inflation rate was largely because last April's reduction in Miras mortgage interest tax relief fell out of annual comparisons and because there was a mortgage rate cut in April this year.

There were also price falls in household goods and household services such as home contents insurance premiums.

Exerting an upward pressure on prices, however, were slightly higher motor insurance premiums after the fierce competition of last year and prices for non-seasonal food. This category, in itself, added 0.06 per cent to the annual rate of inflation, largely because of large price rises for poultry, pork and domestic lamb as

consumers rushed to find substitutes for beef.

Lamb prices rose nearly 17 per cent and pork 10 per cent, while beef prices fell 2.5 per cent. However, statisticians said that they expected beef prices to rise a little this month and for the price of other meats to level off.

Although the underlying rate has stubbornly stuck at nearly 3 per cent, economists believe, along with the Bank of England, that it will now start dropping. Sharp falls in producer output prices in recent months as well as surveys of manufacturers' price expectations suggest that even underlying inflation should start dropping. The headline rate should benefit again in May from cuts in mortgage rates.

One remarkable figure to emerge yesterday was a fall in the tax and prices index (TPI) to 1 per cent in April, from 3 per cent in March, because of the tax cuts announced in the November Budget. The last time the TPI was lower was in March 1993.

Service sector inflation fell to 2 per cent in April, from 2.2 per cent in March, its lowest level since May, 1986. Simon Briscoe, of Nikko Europe, said that, given the attention paid to strength in demand for services in recent quarters, this was encouraging.

### Hanson blow

Dividends paid after Hanson splits into four parts could fall to half their current level. Derek Bonham, chief executive, warned investors as he announced details of the £11 billion demerger. The warning and a disappointing set of half-year profits, knocked 2.5p off the share price to 194.5p.

### Poor sales

British Gas suffered a further blow yesterday after poor sales to industrial customers dragged down the company's first-quarter earnings.

## BT despairs at cap as profit hits £3bn

BY ERIC REGULY

THE chances that BT will trigger a monopolies referral appeared to increase yesterday after the company gave warning that another round of tight price controls would damage it in spite of the strong profit gains made in its last financial year.

Sir Iain Vallance, chairman, said that BT "simply cannot survive" if the price cap that comes into effect in 1997 is similar to the current one, which ensures that prices fall each year by 7 1/2 per cent in real terms. Ofel, the telecommunications regulator, is to reveal the new price cap level at the end of this month. BT will then have until August to accept or reject it.

His comments came as BT revealed a pre-tax profit of £3 billion in the year to August 31, up 13.4 per cent from the previous year. Some analysts said the higher earnings may add only weight to Ofel's arguments that BT is fully capable of operating under fairly tight price controls.

Sir Peter Bonfield, BT's chief executive, said he was "neither optimistic nor pessimistic" that a referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission could be avoided.

Lower redundancy charges — they declined from £820 million to £420 million — were behind the double-digit profits increase. After adjusting for the redundancy charges and other non-recurring items, BT's earnings per share rose 6 per cent to 18.7p.

Turnover was up 4 per cent to £14.4 billion in spite of mope than £300 million in price reductions in its domestic operations. A final dividend of 11.25p is to be paid, making the total dividend 18.7p, up 5.6 per cent.

BT said that it has no intention of paying a special dividend or buying back its shares even though gearing has fallen from 18 per cent to 8 per cent. The shares fell 1p to 333p.

## Classic Bloodstock departure

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE principal trainer to Classic Bloodstock, the troubled racing investment group that raised £6 million from 6,500 investors in two issues, has quit on the eve of the company's annual meeting.

Stuart Williams, the Newmarket trainer, has ordered Ron Dawson, the founder and managing director of Classic Bloodstock, to remove the company's ten horses from his Birdcage Walk yard. Mr Williams, who is the third respected trainer to part company with the racing group since it was started in 1994, took the unusual step over Classic's continued use of Allan Mackay, the retained jockey. The trainer wanted to be allowed to use the "best available jockeys".

Classic Watch, the investors' action group headed by Fraser Earle, will press for an explanation of the loss of Mr Williams's services at the agm at Charnwood Stables, Newmarket, today.

## Another departure at Spring Ram

BY JASON NISSE

SPRING RAM, the troubled home products company, has parted company with the head of its bathrooms operation in an attempt to turn round the business.

Tom Sykes, who was promoted by Roger Regan, the chairman, when he took control of Spring Ram three years ago, has left the company and is being replaced by Robin Trotter.

The shake-up comes against a background of rising debts and continued poor trading at the operation, where founder Bill Rooney was ousted by institutional investors in 1993.

Borrowings have increased to £62 million, from £46 million, at the end of last year, when the group shocked the City by announcing pre-tax losses of £43.6 million for 1995.

Martin Towers, finance director, said there would be a seasonal increase in borrowings but close followers of the business believe the rise has

been more than he was anticipating.

Mr Regan has said he will step aside from his role as executive chairman when he can find an appropriate replacement. However, the candidate believed to be favourite by those employed at Spring Ram — Hartley Moyes, special products chief — is now also expected to leave when the doors business that has been put up for sale is disposed of.

There is a shortlist of fewer than six bidders for the doors operation, which is believed to be worth about £20 million. Another operation, Stag Furniture, is up for sale with a price-tag of £12 million. Mr Regan has angered management by telling them not to bid and John Proctor, the operation's chief executive, resigned last month.

On the stock market, Spring Ram shares closed at 20p, just over half their price a year ago and a fraction of their peak of 172p in 1992.

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Business Finance



# Hanson split could lead to halved dividends

By Jason Nisse

DIVIDENDS paid after Hanson splits into four parts could fall to half their current level. Derek Bonham, the chief executive, gave this warning as he announced details of the £1 billion demerger yesterday.

That, and a disappointing set of half-year profits, knocked 2.5p off the share price to 194.5p.

Hanson is splitting into Imperial Tobacco, Millennium Chemicals, the energy side — as yet unnamed, and a rump of building materials and equipment, which will retain the name Hanson. Mr Bonham told institutional shareholders that he was happy with forecasts of a dividend of between 6p and 8p for the new Hanson, a figure confirmed by Andrew Dougal, the finance director-elect.

The company is spending about £40 million on the demerger, mostly in fees to its tax advisers Ernst & Young. Hanson is confident that neither it, nor its shareholders, will have to pay any extra tax as a result of the split-off.

and Millennium will take place in October, after shareholders' meetings in September. The energy side will be hived off in the new year. Shareholders will get one Millennium share for every 70 old Hanson; the ratio for Imperial and energy will be one in ten. The way the group's £3.5 billion of debt is being divided up surprised the market. Millennium will bear the largest burden, ending up with more than £1.3 billion of borrowings. Energy and Imperial will have just over £1 billion each, and new Hanson no more than £200m. "I'm surprised the rump of Hanson is so lightly geared. It has no stated acquisition plans," said Charles Pick, conglomerates analyst at the stockbroker, Panmure Gordon. "There must be some sort of tax reason for it."

Hanson's last set of half-year profits as a conglomerate were also seen as a disappointment. Though the headline figure showed a 27 per cent increase to £794 million, the City was quick to point out that this year's included exceptional gains of £160 million from disposals, while last year's had a £10 million exceptional loss. This left an increase of £1 million.

But even that masked a couple of one-off gains. The sale by Eastern Electricity of its stake in First Hydro netted £26 million and there was a dividend of £28 million from National Grid before its sale.

The poor figures were largely the fault of the US chemical operation, where one of the group's polyethylene operations was not profitable and other parts of the business were hit by price cuts.

The City is now expecting the market to warm to Hanson as it digests the implications of the demerger. A leading financier said: "This should give the divisions more focus and energy and get rid of some of the funny accounting, which no one liked."



Angela Knight, with the Treasury review of the 1984 Building Societies Act, is to consult the industry over the two-year rule

## Knight resists call for change

By Caroline Merrell

THE Government is refusing to bow to pressure to bring in legislation to prevent speculators joining building societies thought likely to be taken over or to float on the stock market.

At the Building Societies Association Conference yesterday, Angela Knight, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, refused to back the societies' demands to harden immediately the two-year rule on membership, whereby only members of two years' standing can receive takeover or flotation cash payouts.

As more of the biggest societies have opted to convert or be taken over, the Building Societies Association has called for the rule to be more clearly defined. At present, all society account-holders can receive shares upon a takeover or a conversion.

Mrs Knight said that she intended to consult the industry over this rule.

However, Ken Cutley, the association chairman, said: "Many suspect that the real reason for the Government's reluctance to solve this problem is political. It is unwilling to risk alienating large numbers of individuals who are now convinced they have an entitlement to a payout from their building society, irrespective of their length of membership."

Mrs Knight said: "The change in interpretation of the two-year rule which has allowed shares to be offered to members of less than two years' standing was brought about by the actions of the BSA's own members, past and present."

She said that hardening the rule could discriminate against people with accounts of less than two years' standing.

Although unwilling to be drawn on this particular piece of legislation, she did invite societies to consult about barring a thwarted bidder from making another bid for a society for one year, which would bring societies within company takeover rules.

□ The Birmingham Midshires Building Society has confirmed that it is in talks with the West Bromwich Building Society about a takeover. Mike Jackson, Birmingham Midshires chief executive, said yesterday: "We have expressed to their board our interest in forming a partnership to bring our two organisations together."

The Bradford and Bingley, the fifth-biggest society, also said yesterday that it would be interested in talking to the West Bromwich, the eleventh-largest, about a takeover.

Meanwhile, TOI is exporting its insurance cover to the United States where it will be offered to New York Stock Exchange listed companies.

bank, said: "This could well be a worry for some small to medium-sized building societies. However, once we float, we are protected from hostile bids for five years."

A number of building societies have announced their intention to become banks and are believed to have attracted interest from large predators. The Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester and Northern Rock are considered bid targets.

TOI first offered insurance cover for pils in 1990 and now insures 3 per cent of all UK quoted companies. It estimates that a plc has a one-in-four chance of being taken over after a hostile bid. Companies that are insured and successfully fight off a hostile bid will be reimbursed for the cost of fees from lawyers, consultants, stockbrokers and merchant bankers. A spokesman for the Halifax, which plans to float and become a

bank, said: "This could well be a worry for some small to medium-sized building societies. However, once we float, we are protected from hostile bids for five years."

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### BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Glaxo sales ahead as Zantac fades

GLAXO WELLCOME, Britain's largest pharmaceuticals group, revealed at its annual meeting yesterday that overall sales in the four months to April 30 were £2.8 billion, up 11 per cent over the same period a year before, in spite of a 10 per cent drop in the sales of Zantac, its top drug. Excluding Zantac, sales were up 17 per cent, reflecting the success of new drugs such as Imigran, a migraine treatment.

Sir Richard Sykes, Glaxo's chief executive, played down the potential damage posed to the company by the loss of Zantac's patent protection in America next year. He noted that Zantac sales represent only 24 per cent of total sales, against 40 per cent a couple of years ago. He said: "As a result of the continuing decline of Zantac sales, and the rapid growth of new products, we now expect that Zantac sales, which may be materially affected by generic competition in mid-1997, could then be as low as 10 per cent of group total sales." The company said that trading profit growth was "well in excess" of sales growth because of cost savings and efficiencies derived from merging Glaxo with Wellcome over the past year. The sales increase was higher than expected and helped to lift the shares by 47½p, to 856½p.

## BTR issues warning

SHARES in BTR, the industrial conglomerate, fell 14p to 297p after the company told its annual meeting that it expected operating profits for the first half of 1996 to be "moderately below" the same period last year. BTR said most of its businesses had lifted sales and operating profits against the same period last year. However, it said that this progress would be offset by Polymer Taiwan, where the previous good first-half performance had been reversed, and Sealing Systems, where start-up costs had slowed the return on significant new investments.

## Debt hits bank profits

CLYDESDALE and Yorkshire banks, both owned by National Australia Bank, saw profits fall in the six months to March 31. Clydesdale profits before tax fell to A\$123 million (£65 million) after bad-debt charges rose to A\$20 million, while profits at Yorkshire fell to A\$116 million after bad debts rose to A\$61 million. But profits at National Australia's Northern Bank in Northern Ireland rose 22 per cent to A\$78 million, and at the National Irish Bank in Dublin by 4.5 per cent to A\$23 million. Group operating profit was up 4.6 per cent at A\$998 million.

## Greycoat sale proceeds

GREYCOAT shareholders yesterday approved the sale of 151 Buckingham Palace despite opposition from the UK Active Value Fund. Greycoat's net asset value fell by 8p to 167p during the year to March 31, due to a reduction in the value of the group's investment properties. Greycoat made a pre-tax loss of £300,000 during the year after a £5 million provision for debt repayment, but operating profit after interest rose from £2.1 million to £3.7 million. The dividend is up from 0.6p to 0.8p per share.

## Guinness confidence

TONY GREENER, chairman of Guinness, told the company's annual meeting yesterday that trading was in line with expectations for the first four months of the year. Mr Greener added that he was confident that the company would show steady growth in profits during the year and that Guinness would continue to increase the level of marketing investment in both United Distillers and Guinness Brewing Worldwide. Shares in the company lost 3p yesterday to close at 486p.

### TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	1.88	1.92
Austria Sch	17.32	15.82
Belgium Fr	50.83	46.33
Canada \$	5.172	5.018
Cyprus Cyp	0.780	0.708
Denmark Kr	9.57	8.77
Finland Mk	7.18	7.09
France Fr	6.46	7.61
Germany Dm	2.47	2.26
Greece Dr	365.00	380.00
Hong Kong \$	12.88	11.38
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Sh	8.290	4.690
Italy Lit	8484.00	2308.00
Japan Yen	175.50	159.50
Malta	175.50	159.50
Netherlands Gld	2.748	2.218
New Zealand \$	2.25	2.13
Norway Kr	10.84	9.74
Portugal Esc	248.80	281.00
S Africa Rd	7.57	8.07
Spain Ptas	201.00	188.00
Sweden Kr	10.86	10.06
Switzerland Fr	2.08	1.98
Turkey Lira	120795	118795
USA \$	1.611	1.481

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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Numbers are going fast, so don't delay if you want a special one. Don't risk your business deals coming to a dead end. Ring now.

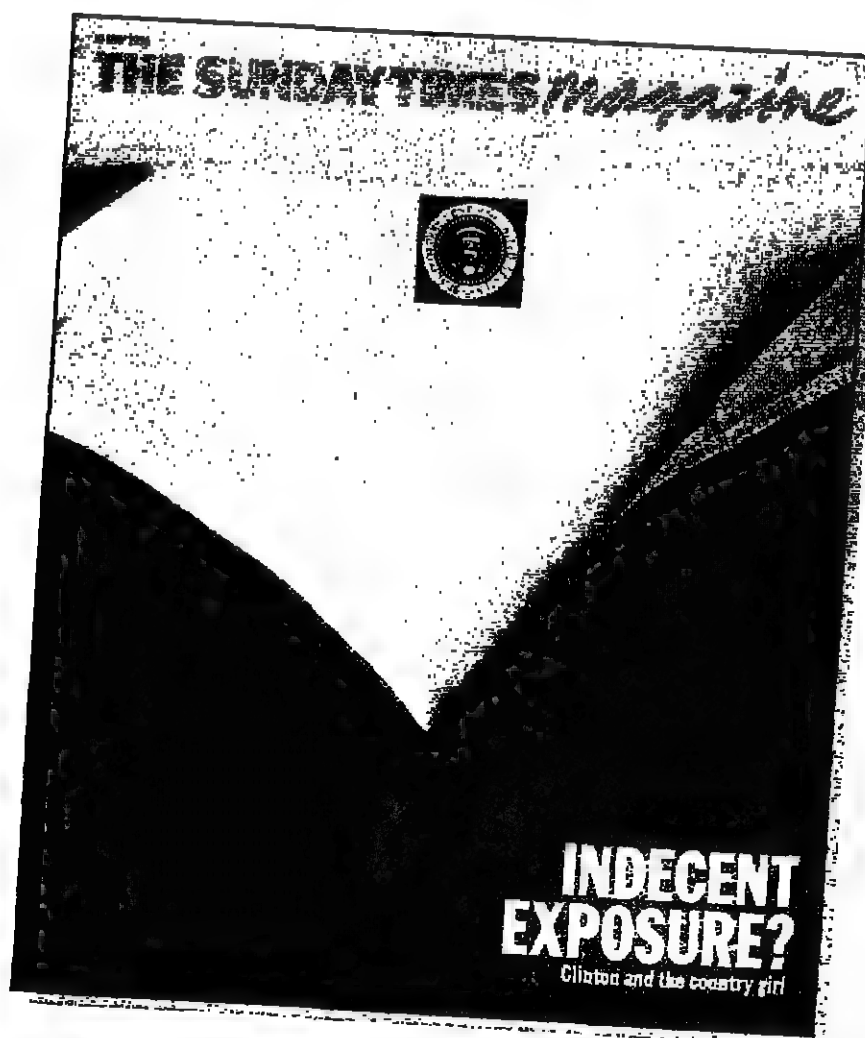
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## THE SUNDAY TIMES



## THE UNDOING OF A PRESIDENT

Either Bill Clinton dropped his pants in that hotel room, or he didn't. In The Sunday Times Magazine, Russell Miller investigates the fall-out from the president's alleged sexual misconduct in 1991

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

هكذا من الأصل



□ First numbers from the Hanson split □ US threat to small accountants □ Japan and Germany run out of steam

# The virtues of disintegration

□ HANSON'S first-half figures give initial details of the effects of splitting into four different companies. Paradoxically, they also show the benefits of remaining a conglomerate.

This is not to attack the demerger, clearly the right course of action on a stock market that mistrusts conglomerates and rates them almost on the basis of the lowest common denominator among the businesses that make them up.

Contrast this to the view in the late 1980s, which was to take an average across the group and then add on a percentage for its charmed status as a conglomerate, that percentage having been calculated according to what view you took of the management. No surprise that the diversified industrial sector has underperformed the FTSE by about 25 per cent since the start of 1991.

Hanson's profits may have come in as expected, but their make-up showed a sharper than expected fall in earnings from chemicals that was more than balanced by an upturn at the enlarged energy side. Disregard for a moment the fact that much of this came from acquisitions, particularly Eastern last summer: the discredited theory of conglomerates had it that what you lost on the roundabout you gained on the swings, so allow-

ing a smooth profits stream year on year. The chemical cycle is against you, but lax regulation in British energy makes up for this.

Once demerged, chemicals and building products, which will stay within the core Hanson business, will be wildly cyclical and subject to huge profits swings. Tobacco — and how pleasant to see an Imperial Tobacco back on the stock market — will be a business in managed decline, while it is not easy to see the immediate advantage in putting together a US coal business and a regulated British electricity combine.

Thus the negatives. They are heavily outweighed by the positives, whatever yesterday's fall for the shares says about market nerves after signs that the price had been clawing itself back above the £2 mark again. Tax and other costs, initially seen as uncomfortably heavy, are in the company's words "containable".

A recent broker's report on Hanson assessed the break-up value at 224p a share. The demerger is tax-efficient for shareholders, and small investors will be offered a cheap

dealing service to allow them to switch out of unwanted shares.

What is really driving the optimism, and forget talk of more focused management and other corporate guff, is that one or more may be taken over. The debt profile — lots on to chemicals and tobacco, less on to energy and virtually none on building materials — suggests that the first two are seen as the bid candidates and the others are in expansion mode, the last probably by takeover. The market is swamped with data, but once the Hanson roadshows start, look for the shares to move up again.

**The Americans are coming**

□ IN AN ideal world, every middle-class household would have an accountant and a solicitor, in the same way as a dentist and a family doctor. It is only the reactionary stupidity of those two professions that prevents their services spreading down the income scale, to the benefit of practice and client alike.



The lawyers are probably beyond saving. We will only ever see them during hugely expensive life crises — deaths, divorces and house moves. The accountants are facing the most serious shake-out since the advent of double-entry bookkeeping, and many medium-sized practices will not survive the coming competition. Few will mourn their passing.

H & R Block, the American company that has been called the McDonald's of the personal tax preparation industry, is coming to Britain. The attraction is the arrival last month of self-assessment reforms, which require nine million higher-rate tax payers and the self-employed to calculate their own tax liability.

Little known in this country, Block came into view this week with the appointment of Richard Brown, its chief executive, to the same post at Cable and Wireless. Mr Brown lost no time setting out his current employer's ambitions in the UK.

Based in Kansas City, Missouri, the company is the American leader in personal tax accounting. The arrival of the tax return is an annual nightmare for most Americans. Block was launched in 1954 by Henry and Richard Block — they changed the spelling so it would not be mispronounced — to charge low and medium-income families a relatively small fee to prepare their returns.

By the mid-1990s, Block was preparing some 17 million individual returns a year and had become a high street fixture across the country. Relying on non-professional employees who pay for cheap tax classes that qualify them to do the work, H & R Block is America's largest seasonal white-collar employer.

The potential in the UK is clear, and traditional accountants, to judge from their past record, are

in no position to meet the need. By contrast, Block's record in the US has been one of aggressive and effective marketing.

**Value cult goes East**

□ THE cult of short-term shareholder value seems to be gaining ground in continental Europe and Japan, just as it is beginning to be questioned in Britain and America.

Iain Beattie, of Scottish Amicable Investment Managers, argued at its annual investment conference that the change of heart makes Tokyo and continental shares more attractive. Who would have guessed ten years ago that Toyota would make a share buyback, Daimler-Benz would lop chunks off its business and Suez would start dismantling its empire?

Unfortunately, as British investors know, the catch is in the explanation for this change of heart towards patient investors. Mr Beattie says this culture shift is driven by three years of recession and limited prospects.

"Previously, the superior economic growth in countries such as Germany and Japan compensated for the negative impact of stakeholding on equity investment returns".

The new focus on investor returns is surely a sign that Germany and Japan have run out of steam. Will they also adopt the downsizing cult, which has kept profits, dividends and shares buoyant, but is now denounced by chief priest Stephen Roach?

Investors looking for growth should focus on economies that are still expanding fast, where big companies have better things to do with their cash flow than to tell shareholders to find their own investment opportunities.

**Breaking ranks**

□ SIR BRUCE PATULLO has rather blown the gaff on any attempt to pretend that the relationship between the Bank of Scotland and Standard Life is still amicable now Standard has decided to sell its 32 per cent stake. On Monday, the bank was saying, through clenched teeth, that it was all a matter for its biggest shareholder. No matter that Standard may have been under a fiduciary duty to sell down: Sir Bruce's departure shows the bank's view of this breach of the Charlotte Square code of omerta.

## Poor sales hit earnings at beleaguered British Gas

By Christine Buckley

BRITISH GAS suffered a further blow yesterday after poor sales to industrial customers dragged down first-quarter earnings.

The cold winter weather failed to deliver an adequate boost for the company, which faces severe pricing caps on its pipelines business from the regulator, and net income for the first three months of this year slipped to £573 million from £605 million in 1995.

Analysts had forecast the figures to be between £620 million and £670 million. TransCo, the pipelines network, increased its current cost operating profit to £508 million from £450 million. Overall pre-tax profit for the period stood at £933 million on historical cost, against £954 million the previous year.

Although the cold snaps brought a benefit of £100 million after households compensated by using more gas, British Gas's sales to industrial and commercial customers fell into a loss of £95 million, compared with a £20 million profit the previous quarter.

The company is losing large-scale customers to rivals, who are not saddled with the same take-or-pay contracts as British Gas. Roy Gardner, finance director, said that the company was paying on average 20p a therm for gas while it had to sell it at 10p a therm.

The £40 billion of take-or-pay contracts that British Gas is locked into drained £500 million from the company last year. Mr Gardner said that the company was attempting to renegotiate the contracts. It

was prepared to offer flexible deals to producers in an effort to deliver sufficient incentives for them to re-arrange the contracts.

Mr Gardner added that the losses from take-or-pay obligations this year was expected to be around £300 million.

British Gas also confirmed the further job losses it had signalled in its annual results earlier this year. Mr Gardner said that he expected a few thousand more staff to leave after a bout of applications for voluntary redundancy.

Operating costs jumped in the first quarter as the company paid to facilitate the introduction of competition through its pipeline network and tried to improve its much-derided customer service division. It has spent about £20

million on customer service after the company was bombarded with complaints.

Yesterday, British Gas was drafting a response to the Ofgas proposals that threaten a one-off charge of between 20 and 28 per cent on TransCo's revenues next year, and a running curb of RPI-X thereafter for five years. British Gas insists such controls would necessitate halving manpower, effectively putting TransCo out of business.

The two sides have been locked in a war of words since Monday's proposals from Ofgas. Clare Sportswode, the regulator, is believed to have asked British Gas to justify its jobs claim, while the company is lobbying to see figures produced by the regulator's independent advisers.

## PowerGen starts share buy-back

POWERGEN yesterday set in motion the share buy-back programme it announced with its results earlier this week (Christine Buckley writes).

The generator, which said it would buy and cancel about 10 per cent of its shares in a £400 million plan, bought 35 million shares, or 4.8 per cent of its equity, in the market.

UBS carried out the deal, buying at an average price of £25p, making a cost of £875 million. The share price closed yesterday at £29p.

The buy-back was announced to deliver back to shareholders the proceeds from PowerGen's sale of its 21 per cent stake in Midlands Electricity, for whom its bid was vetoed, and its sale of an interest in the National Grid acquired via its Midlands holding.

## Brighter Burton poised for growth

By Sarah Cunningham

FIRST-HALF figures showing improved sales and sharply higher profits, together with indications of higher sales in the second half, confirmed yesterday that Burton, the retail group, is out of recovery and set for growth.

The group, which comprises Debenhams department stores and the fashion chains, Top Shop, Top Man, Dorothy Perkins, Evans, Principles, and Burton Menswear, said that in the six months ending March 2, pre-tax profits jumped 43 per cent to £88.1 million on sales of £1.09 billion, up 5.7 per cent. It increased its interim dividend 15 per cent to 1.15p per share.

Expansion is to focus on Debenhams, with plans to open 200 new stores by the year 2000. The first will be in Lincoln, Trafford Park in Manchester, Banbury and the

Metro Centre, Gateshead. Others will be opened in Dublin, at the White Rose Centre near Leeds, in Barrow and in Brighton.

Burton group shares closed down 6.5p at 152.5p. The better than expected results persuaded analysts to increase their full-year forecasts, with Andrew Hughes, of UBS, moving from £130 million to £135 million.

Debenhams, which makes up around half the group, saw sales rise 3.5 per cent, while the fashion chains' sales were up 8.1 per cent. Top Shop and Top Man were the best performers, with sales up 12.6 per cent. In the first nine weeks of the second half, group sales were up 5.6 per cent. Only Burton Menswear sales were down, by 2.1 per cent.

Tempus, page 28

## More make tracks for Railtrack

MORE than 650,000 applications have been received from private investors wanting shares in Railtrack, the railway track and signalling company being privatised on Monday (Our City Staff writes).

SBC Warburg has raised its estimate of 500,000 applications and now expects the Public Offer to be oversubscribed three times. The Government is now expected to raise from 30 per cent the amount of the company to be sold to the public because of the level of demand. City institutions will receive less than the 70 per cent originally allotted.

It is understood that the international offer — open to financial institutions at home and abroad — has been oversubscribed four times. The brokers have already indicated that the share price is likely to come in at the top end of its indicated 350p-390p range.



John McGrath, left, and George Bull, GrandMet chairman

## GrandMet sees spirits recovery

By Alasdair Murray

GRAND METROPOLITAN, the food and spirits company, yesterday claimed that there were signs of a revival in the international spirits market.

The company, whose brands include Smirnoff Vodka, Baileys and J&B whisky, said that it was confident of pushing through price increases averaging 2 per cent and had enjoyed volume growth of 5 per cent on a like-for-like basis in the first half of the year.

The comments came yesterday after the company disclosed a 3 per cent rise in half-year profits, excluding exceptional items, to £455 million.

GrandMet said that a good performance from its food division had been offset by a flat profit in International Distillers and Vintners (IDV), its spirits business. GrandMet shares fell 6p, to 440p.

GrandMet, whose chief executive is John McGrath, said that it wants to sell Pearl, its optician business, but denied that it was also looking to offload the highly profitable Burger King chain. Pearl made profits of £2 million in the half year, a fall of 50 per cent, and GrandMet said that it wanted a sale price above its £125 million book value.

IDV operating profits re-

mained at £211 million. GrandMet said that it would continue to reduce reliance on the US market, where profits fell by 3 per cent, to £75 million, while investing in the emerging markets of Asia and Eastern Europe.

Profits in the packaged food division rose by 46 per cent, to £247 million, boosted by the contribution from Pet, which was acquired for £1.8 billion last year. GrandMet said that Pet had exceeded expectations and was already making a positive contribution to earnings.

The BSE scare took its toll of profits of Burger King, with the switch from British beef costing £2 million and with a £5 million dent in profits expected in the second half. UK sales tumbled by 11 per cent after the scare, but sales have stabilised in the past couple of weeks.

Overall, Burger King's sales rose by 9 per cent, boosted by strong growth in the United States, where it has 17 per cent of the market. Profits, excluding refranchising sales, rose by 7 per cent, to £70 million.

The interim dividend rises by 6 per cent, to 5.85p, due on October 7.

Tempus, page 27

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## Shares soar as fund manager's profits leap 26% to £140m

## Independence proves asset to MAM

By Patricia Tehan  
Banking Correspondent

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT celebrated its first year of independence from SBC Warburg with a 26 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £140.4 million in the year to March 31.

The shares soared 38p to close at 950p last night after MAM pushed its dividend for the year 34.6 per cent higher, to 35p. The final payment of 29p is due on July 3.

Hugh Stevenson, chairman of MAM, said the board felt that the rise in dividend was appropriate given the increased liquidity of the balance sheet. Dividend cover fell from 1.72 times in 1995 to 1.54 times.

Mr Stevenson said he was pleased with the performance. He said MAM re-

entered its momentum in the second half of the year after the uncertainty over the ownership of Warburg disappeared with its acquisition by Swiss Bank Corporation. As part of the deal last summer, Warburg's 75 per cent stake in MAM was distributed to Warburg shareholders.

Mr Stevenson said: "You cannot go through that sort of change of ownership without affecting the business."

There has been continued speculation in the City that MAM needs a strong international partner if it is to continue to expand from its traditional UK base. Mr Stevenson said: "I hope that these results show people that we are very capable of standing on our own." However, he did not rule out the possibility of a future bid for MAM or a link-up with a third party. He said: "Whatever we were to do, we

would do it from a position of considerable strength."

Funds under management rose 27.6 per cent, from £63.5 billion to £81 billion, last year, including £3.3 billion of net new business. Most of the increase came from the rise in value of client portfolios. Of the new business, £2.5 billion was added in the second half after the resolution of uncertainties.

Mr Stevenson said business was growing fastest on the international side, particularly in the US, where MAM's net new business was \$1.2 billion, and in Japan where he expected to see continued steady growth.

He said: "Fund management is a growth industry because of the need to provide retirement incomes for people, which is not going to go away."







THE TIMES  
CITY DIARY

Overlooked  
at Burtons

THE Burton group's days of "pile 'em high and let 'em fly" are over, the management assured investors yesterday, announcing that first-half profits were up because of attention to detail, and a more upmarket feel.

How unfortunate and how inconsistent then that the results presentations were held behind the group's flagship Debenhams store in Oxford Street, which was advertising a "12-Hour Spectacular" promising "Millions of Pounds off Thousands of Things."

Prudence

PETER DAVIS, chief executive of the Prudential, and the man most likely to buy a building society, spoke at the Building Societies Association conference in Birmingham. But his passage through the meeting rooms was greeted with some nervousness by other delegates. He confided: "People don't like to be seen talking to me."

Yorkshire brass

MIKE FIRTH, chairman and chief executive of Yorkshire Food Group, need not feel obliged to dig deep into his own pockets again this year to fund the second Yorkshire Business conference. There was even a waiting list for the two-day event at Harwood House that last year played host to 1,400 guests and 200 empty chairs. Speakers, including former Polish president Lech Walesa, who is standing in for Donald Trump, Albert Reynolds and Larry King, the US chat show host, have attracted ticket sales of 1,700 for the event. Coopers & Lybrand has the monopoly, with 200 seats at £200 each. Two tonnes of food, including 480lbs of salmon and 2,000 chicken breasts, will be served on two miles of table linen.



Compass, please

CHIEF executive Francis Mackay spent the eve of Compass Group's interim results announcement breaking into a car in the depths of Waterloo. After Mr Mackay and his chums were unable to secure a table at Le Gavroche, Compass consultant Albert Roux's restaurant, the boys moved on to RSJ in Waterloo. On leaving the upmarket eatery, Mackay's party discovered their driver had locked them out of their limousine. Heading for Tower Hotel, both driver and limo were abandoned in favour of a London cab.

Country folk

JULIAN METCALFE, co-founder of Pret A Manger, the pukka sandwich chain, is moving to the country. For the sake of his three children, Metcalfe, 36, is leaving the magnificence of his £1.65 million converted schoolhouse in Battersea, southwest London, for a derelict house in Oxfordshire. In August, Metcalfe and his clan will shut the door for the last time on their open-plan London pad, consisting of three vast classrooms, refurbished by interior decorator Willie Nickerson. The kitchen is covered in Pret A Manger burnished steel.

MORAG PRESTON

# Brewer regards market in China as no small beer

Carl Mortished  
finds Bass thirsty  
for good returns  
from its latest  
overseas venture

Razzmatazz is what you need to launch a new beer and Bass International Brewers pulled out all the stops for the arrival of Tennent's lager in China. The 300 VIPs who poured out of fleets of black limousines at the China World Hotel in Peking were used to banquets. However, nothing could have prepared them for the cultural extravaganza that followed. To a swirl of bagpipers, Gus Guthrie, managing director of the Bass Ginsberg joint venture, arrived to deliver the opening address, shortly followed by a large haggis on a plate. Clad in kilt and sporran, he gave an impassioned recitation of a Robert Burns poem and then carved up the haggis under the bemused gaze of the elderly vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Congress.

The assorted Communist Party officials, local government bigwigs, distributors, and beer trade customers listened politely to a trade union ballad delivered by two Scots with guitar and accordion. They gave a more enthusiastic response to an ear-splitting number from a Peking Opera star.

Like most marketing stunts, the frolics concealed a deadly seriousness and the real message was rammed home to anyone with eyes to see. A huge red "T" covered the backcloth to the stage and emblazoned the publicity brochures in which each guest would find discreetly placed a crisp RMB100 note (worth about £8, it is customary to pay top travel expenses). In another country, such a gathering of politicians and well-heeled businessmen might have served to launch a new political party, but in China, where successful business deals depend heavily on government connections, the guests had been invited in an effort to promote a new brand of beer.

China is the world's fastest-growing beer market. Consumption is increasing by 20 per cent per year, helped by a government five-year plan aimed at weaning the public away from high-alcohol spirits like rice wine. The country is set to overtake America as the number one beer market by 2000 and international branded beers such as San Miguel, Budweiser, Carlsberg and Heineken are already lining the bars in hotels and restaurants.

Faced with stiff competition, Bass spent three years searching for the right Chinese partner and in May last year agreed a joint venture with the Ginsberg Beer Group, a business owned by the Hong Zui Corporation, a township enterprise which grew out of an agricultural cooperative. Bass has invested \$47 million for a 55 per cent interest in the business, a brewery at Siping, in Jilin Province in the North East of China.

Ginsberg had two main attractions for Bass: modern plant installed in 1994 and its location in the North East, an area given less attention so far by foreign investors who have poured money



The growing number of bars in places such as Peking provide a ready market — discos present more of a challenge

into Shanghai and Guangdong in the South. According to Mr Guthrie, the Ginsberg brewery is one of the largest and most modern in China, producing two million hectolitres of beer a year and with the potential to double production.

The firm already produces two beers, a value brand called JTQ and Ginsberg, a more upmarket product (the name is a corruption of kings beer). But for Bass, the main attraction is to brew Tennent's lager in Siping and sell the renamed "T"

## The Chinese obsession with brands and image has sent prices into orbit

who earn upwards of \$18,000 a year. For such people, explains Leslie Fitzell, international business development manager at Bass, brands are worn on your sleeve (often literally so) as a symbol of prosperity. This is particularly important given the Chinese concern with "face".

Mr Fitzell said: "There is an underlying belief that what you are seen drinking determines who you are." Tennent's will find a ready market among the tight-knit foreign community of expatriates who frequent the foreign bars that are mushrooming across Peking at the same speed as the capital's grey concrete office blocks. The British brewer is already mulling over plans for "tied pubs" which would exclusively sell Tennent's and other imported Bass beers. But the real challenge is to sell "T" Brand lager in the discos and karaoke bars that have sprung up to cater for the young and upwardly mobile. In such places, the Chinese obsession with

brands and image has sent prices into orbit. Foreign lagers sell for £5 a can, and an unexceptional bottle of Chablis will set you back more than £100. Brian Ross, international business development director, said that the chase for branded products is in part due to high levels of disposable income. While average earnings may be low, the Chinese have fewer demands on their wallets in a country where the Government or the employer provides housing. Few Chinese own their own homes and private cars are an unaffordable luxury, discouraged with huge import duties.

That leaves the Chinese with plenty of spare cash to buy status in a more modest way. Mr Ross said: "If you cannot buy a Range Rover and park it next to your neighbour's Montego, you can buy a packet of Marlboro and place it on the table next to his Chinese cigarettes." Having acquired one brewery, Bass is already on the lookout for others to extend its reach in a market that is highly fragmented and where local brews enjoy considerable loyalty. There are more than 800 breweries in China, and foreign beers account for only 5 per cent of the market. The process will be slow and plagued by the never-ending round of approvals needed from authorities ranging from the central government in Peking to the local fire service, any of whom can block a deal.

Mr Ross admits that the hefty gross margins — as high as 80 per cent — in selling premium beers could quickly fall as the market matures and competition begins to bring prices down. But that is no reason to worry. There are reckoned to be some 400 million consumers of alcohol in China; hardly small beer to any brewer.

# When the bad old days look set to return

Philip Bassett on the economists who fear a repeat of the crises of the 70s

Inflation at 25 per cent. Public sector borrowing at 10 per cent of GDP. Public spending consuming half of Britain's national output. And rapidly rising unemployment. Sound familiar? No? And yet a new study is suggesting that Britain could be returning to the economic and industrial crises of the 1970s, when the economy looked like this.

Twenty years ago, two Oxford academics, Robert Bacon and Walter Eltis — who went on to become the director-general of the now-scraped National Economic Development Office and subsequently chief economic adviser to Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, when he was at the Department of Trade and Industry — put forward a highly influential theory about British industry and the British economy, advanced first in articles in *The Sunday Times* and then as *Britain's Economic Problem: Too Few Producers*.

What the Bacon and Eltis thesis, as it became known, essentially said was that Britain's "market sector", comprising private business plus the trading parts of the public sector, was being economically crowded out by the over-rapid expansion of the non-market sector, and was becoming too weak to generate the required investment and employment.

Their solution — put forward as non-political but which had considerable influence on Conservative policymakers in the run-up to the watershed 1979 general election — sat neatly with the revival in Conservative thinking along the same lines: restraining the public sector, reviving private enterprise and cutting back on direct taxation.

Now Bacon and Eltis have gone back to their mid-70s views — and end up giving warning of the possibility of Britain slipping back economically to those times.

Since their first theories, and especially after what happened to the UK economy during the Thatcher years of the 1980s, other economists have suggested that their views simply caught an anti-statism moment; that the expansion of the tax-financed sector was not the main cause of Britain's slow growth, and that the real

problem was low productivity growth, independent of the proportion of consumption which is tax-financed.

Even if that is so, Bacon and Eltis, as Lord Skidelsky writes in an introduction to their revisiting of their views, clearly "helped create an intellectual climate favourable to Thatcherism". Now, even policy proponents on the Right acknowledge that much of the intellectual thrust in politics and the economy is clustering round Tony Blair's new Labour.

Giving warning of a "return to the destabilisation sequence from which Britain began to suffer in the 1960s and 1970s", Bacon and Eltis suggest that two significant developments would first have to occur: extra public spending would again be allowed to "cream off" most of the fruits of economic growth, and a future government would return to becoming an employer of last resort to bring unemployment back to the far lower levels of the 1950s and 60s. All three main political parties say they

## Outcome of the election, and what follows, will be proof

have no intention of doing anything to promote such developments. But a future Labour government is likely to face strong pressures for higher public spending; despite the pledges of Mr Blair and Gordon Brown, his Shadow Chancellor. Equally, Labour is under pressure to commit itself to re-promoting full employment.

"Many in economics and politics forget previous disasters and the political and intellectual battles which had to be won to re-establish the foundations of a viable economy," Bacon and Eltis write now. "Another crisis like those the UK survived in 1970 and 1979 could recur if the combination of policies which destabilised the economy in the 1970s is allowed to re-emerge."

The outcome of the election, and what follows, will be the proof of that. In the 1990s, the Bacon and Eltis thesis is unlikely to have the same resonance. But far from recanting, the authors are sticking to their last — and say the poor performance they identified lies lurking, waiting to return.

□ *Britain's Economic Problem Revisited*: Robert Bacon and Walter Eltis. (Macmillan Press: £45 and £14.99.)

### BUSINESS LETTERS

#### Subsidy dangers of electricity at below its real cost

From the Chief Executive, Association of Electricity Producers

Sir, The Energy Intensive Users' Group (EIUG) is right to demand liberalisation of European electricity markets. Monopoly vested interests are denying customers a choice of suppliers and British businesses with operations elsewhere in Europe are paying the price for that.

It is unfortunate, however, that the EIUG used the occasion to take yet another

swipe at the British electricity market ("Large users press for action power pool", May 2).

Britain has led the way in liberalising electricity markets and customers are enjoying the benefits. As recently as April 30, the electricity regulator's annual report confirmed that there is increasing competition in generation and supply and that "real prices to industrial customers were between 4 per cent and 13 per cent lower than in the previous year, some 14 per cent to 20 per cent lower than at vesting"

(1990). I am far from certain that the large users want market prices. I suspect that they simply want electricity at below its real cost. That means subsidies, paid for by others, but it would be a rather confusing message for our European partners. Yours faithfully, DAVID PORTER, Chief Executive, Association of Electricity Producers, 1st Floor, 41 Whitehall, SW1.

#### Scrip madness

From David Lindsay

Sir, Yet another scrip dividend alternative in the mail today! Why this mad corporate scramble to raise unpredictable amounts of additional capital for unspecified purposes?

I know it enables shareholders to avoid stamp duty and dealing costs and the company to reduce ACT liability, but is that enough to justify dispensing with the usual discipline of issuing a prospectus when raising fresh capital? Is it good for a company that its capital base should jerk up unevenly and its board then have to invest on the hoof like a bank or building society, except that this is money with no strings attached? Hardly the responsible investment the Government should be encouraging. Will other shareholders join with me in voting against these schemes until Government, the Stock Exchange or a business academic explains why they are such a good thing? Yours faithfully, DAVID LINDSAY, 36 Orchard Coombe, Whitechurch Hill, Reading.

#### Health warning

From Dr Graham Jackson

Sir, Commenting on BAT's profits, *Tempus* (May 2) suggests that "investors should not be fooled into believing tobacco is a dying industry". Unfortunately, from a medical viewpoint, that is exactly what it is. Yours faithfully, GRAHAM JACKSON (Consultant Cardiologist), Guy's Hospital, St Thomas Street, SE1.

#### Eurotunnel struggle

From Mr Desmond J. Weaver

Sir, I refer to Pennington's "Light at the (Euro) Tunnel's End" (May 8). What a shower we British are when it comes to organising ourselves to fight for a fair deal for shareholders — those forgotten people who put up lots of cash to get the finest civil engineering project in the world completed against all possible odds. I am extremely glad that, in this instance, we are outnumbered, on at least a four-to-one ratio, by our French colleagues, who, true to form, are prepared to take to the streets in support of the common cause. *Vive la difference!* Much as I admire their determination, it is nothing compared with the forthright leadership of Sir Alastair Morrison, who, with typical flair, decided that a settlement to the financial crisis should be negotiated under French law, where shareholders' rights are at least given fair weighting. Under British law, we all would have been dead and buried by now by the banking consortium. When the banks called for Sir Alastair's head a few weeks ago, it was obvious that he must be doing too good a job for shareholders. Well done, Sir Alastair!

But what for his future once this final problem is solved? I understand that within 12 months, there might well be a vacancy in very senior government — a far less onerous job. Yours faithfully, DESMOND J. WEAVER, 4 Mavis Grove, Rhwibina, Cardiff.

#### Protection for Lloyd's policyholders an issue

From Mr John Higgins

Sir, In your account of the prospective Lloyd's settlement no mention is made of the interests of past and future policyholders ("Lloyd's names thrown £1.2bn lifeline", May 6). If the risk and liability that the names contracted to accept is now to be capped, this must

have an important impact on policyholders and future premiums. Who is protecting their interests in the current negotiations? Yours faithfully, JOHN HIGGINS, Friern Cottage, Doctors Commons Road, Berkhamsted, Herts.

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# Optimism at Compass after 118% increase

By Philip Pangalos

FRANCIS MACKAY, chief executive of Compass Group, the world's biggest contract caterer, is confident of prospects after acquisitions, strong organic growth and improved margins helped the group to more than double first-half profits.

The company, which last year paid £589 million to acquire Euret, the French catering arm of Accor, saw pre-tax profits advance 118.7 per cent to £67.8 million in the six months to March 31.

Turnover, which was boosted by acquisitions, expanded by 67.9 per cent to £1.24 billion.

Mr Mackay said: "We saw strong organic growth in all the group's divisions and an excellent first half-year contribution from Euret International. We are going to focus on gripping some of the organic growth opportunities we've got."

Mr Mackay sees scope for further margin improvement. He said the improving trend in the current margin, of just over 5 per cent, is expected to continue in the second half.

Substantial margin growth is expected in Scandinavia, while improvement is also expected in the potentially huge United States market.

Compass also expects to see a big increase in market share in Germany, the biggest market in Europe and the least contracted. Mr Mackay said: "The recession in Germany has made companies there very wary of outsourcing, but we expect this to turn as the economy improves. There is a strong growth rate to come through Germany."

Mr Mackay added that the company will concentrate on

organic growth in the next couple of years, but said that "infill acquisitions" are still possible.

Mr Mackay is optimistic about the future. He said: "We are very positive on prospects. The major engines of the group have a lot of growth potential; we look forward to a period of further progress."

The disposal of Compass's healthcare division to management in December for £178.8 million led to an exceptional profit of £20 million.

For shareholders there is also an improvement in the half-year dividend. An interim of 2.75p (2.45p) is payable on July 29 from adjusted earnings 17 per cent better at 11p per share. On the stock market, Compass shares closed 7p lower at 528p.

Business letters, page 29



Francis Mackay, left, and Roger Matthews, finance director of Compass, reported upper-crust earnings

## Time clocks up 33% profit rise

By Clark Stewart

SALES of luxury watches helped Time Products to achieve a 33 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £16.6 million.

Demand for its Audemars Piguet and Piaget brands, top models of which sell for a few hundred thousand pounds apiece, helped the group to shrug off losses in America.

The results came in well ahead of City forecasts, with turnover up 14 per cent to £91 million and earnings 26.8 per cent ahead to 20.24p.

The final dividend is 6.5p, making a total for the year of 10p, against 9p in the previous year.

Marcus Margulies, chairman, said that the luxury watches business was very strong.

He reported good progress in both the UK and North America, although he said that the strong Swiss franc had made the Swiss market more difficult.

Time Products' main market brands in the UK recorded significant turnover and profit growth, helped by the performance of the market leader, Sekonda, which sold 1.7 million watches last year.

Shares in Time Products rose 13p to 348p yesterday.

## Fine Art tops City forecasts

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES in Fine Art Developments, the mail order and greetings card group, jumped 15 pence to 498p yesterday, as it reported a 16 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £395 million for the year to March 31, significantly better than City forecasts.

Sales from card and paper products rose by 18 per cent to £181 million, lifted by the group's growing presence in America. UK sales grew by 20 per cent, helped by a sharp increase in demand for branded cards from WH Smith and Marks & Spencer.

Operating profits in Fine Art's mail order division rose 4 per cent to £24.9 million, despite suffering a serious

setback from the French postal strike last summer. Overall, sales in the division rose by 15 per cent to £214 million.

UK mail order sales were lifted by the introduction of a "structured credit" scheme, which drew an increase in spending per customer by including new catalogues with clients' monthly statements.

The company said that the scheme, which brought in 69 per cent of mail order sales, was made feasible by a shift in its customer base from agents to individual buyers.

Keith Chapman, chairman of Fine Art, said that the company planned to invest heavily in its self-help division, which supplies fundraising catalogues to

churches, schools and charities who retain 25 per cent of sales. He said British schools, hit by drops in government funding, were turning to charity catalogues to raise cash.

"We are getting to the stage where the Government cannot fund everything that is required," he said. "Self-help is the logical way forward, and with our charity catalogues, we are ideally placed in this growing market."

He added that the company did not expect the situation to change under a Labour government.

Earnings were a new high of 43.86p a share, a rise of 35 per cent. A 12.5p final dividend, lifted from 11.5p, makes a total of 16.5p, up from 15.3p.

## Europe barring low air fares, says British Midland

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

EUROPEAN airline passengers are being denied lower fares because state-owned airports on the Continent are deliberately stifling competition. European labour laws are also forcing airlines to pay very high wages and redundancy payments, which prevent genuinely low-cost airlines from operating profitably, according to Sir Michael Bishop, chairman of British Midland, the airline operator.

The cost of operating from a European airport, Sir Michael said, was up to 40 per cent higher than it was in Britain — and would remain so until airport monopolies were broken up.

"British airlines cannot get their costs down to the levels of the American operators, but, in turn, the Continental Europeans don't even begin to approach the UK's own low costs," he said.

Sir Michael said that, with

almost every charge — including landing fees, ground handling charges and catering — kept artificially high through a lack of competition at Europe's state-owned airports, there was little chance of any new airlines being able to offer low fares and make a profit.

British Midland, he said, therefore preferred to operate out of Heathrow, where landing fees were now among the cheapest in the world, and other British airports, where fierce competition enabled airlines to buy all their ground services at the cheapest rate.

Sir Michael was reporting big growth in profit and turnover for British Midland's parent company, Airlines of Britain Holdings. Group pre-tax profits were £6.2 million last year, up from only £300,000 in 1994. The number of passengers carried increased 10 per cent to 7.2 million.

## Transmissions losses offset Alvis advance

Shares in Alvis, the defence equipment manufacturer, fell 14½p to 135p as continued losses at the group's transmissions business offset a surge in first-half profits. A strong performance from Alvis Vehicles, which maintained a healthy level of deliveries of Scorpion and Stormer armoured vehicles to overseas customers, helped to drive pre-tax profits up to £5.05 million (£1.8 million) in the six months to March 31.

Turnover was £55.1 million (£37.3 million). However, losses at Alvis Transmissions, including restructuring costs, exceeded £2 million because of lower than expected sales and a number of one-off charges. Further losses at the operation are expected in the second half, before an anticipated improvement the next year. Alvis had net cash of £23.3 million at the half-way stage. An interim dividend of 1p (0.75p) is payable on September 9, from earnings of 6p (0.9p).

## Concentric advances

CONCENTRIC, the engineering products company, lifted pre-tax profits 3.3 per cent to £5.34 million in the six months to March 31, in spite of a decreased contribution from its core UK sector. A lull in demand from UK car manufacturers and increased pressure on aluminium margins reduced UK turnover to £48.5 million, a fall of 5 per cent. Overseas sales grew 20 per cent to £26.1 million. Earnings rose to 6.58p a share (6.37p) and there is an interim dividend of 2.05p (1.95p).

## Clyde in Australian bid

CLYDE PETROLEUM, the UK oil exploration and production company, has made a \$172.8 million (£91.4 million) bid for Crusader, an Australian oil and gas group. The offer of \$1.62 a share is backed by Triton Energy, which owns 49.9 per cent of Crusader. The acquisition would give Clyde a fourth production base, adding to its interests in the UK, The Netherlands and Indonesia and increasing its overall oil and equivalent reserves by 30 per cent to 130 million barrels.

## Ferguson in the red

RONNIE IRVING has quit as managing director of Ferguson International, the labels, printing and publishing group that has reported losses of £1.1 million for the year to February 29 (pre-tax profit £12.8 million). Operating profits for the year were £13.6 million, but there were net exceptional charges of £11.7 million against disposals. There is a final dividend of 8.75p a share, payable on July 10. The total is unchanged at 13.25p. There was a loss of 11.9p a share (earnings of 23.5p).

## Greenway Holdings slips

GREENWAY HOLDINGS, the waste oil recycler, saw its pre-tax profits fall to £750,000 in the year to March 31, from £1.82 million in the previous 12 months. Eugene Quigley, chairman, blamed the fall on reduced sales volumes and increases in overheads at Precision Oils, which Greenway bought in February 1995. Earnings per share fell from 6.62p to 2.58p. A final dividend of 1.5p per share is to be paid on July 16, making a total of 2p, a fall of 0.5p.

## Talks on duty-free outlets

ALLDERS is in talks that could lead to it selling Allders International, its worldwide duty-free outlets. With a turnover in excess of £650 million, Allders is the largest duty-free retailer in Britain and the second largest in the world. Latest annual results for the year to September 30, 1995, showed the group suffered an 8 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £23.5 million, from £25.5 million, largely because of the effects of higher than expected opening costs and the warm summer.

## Chrysler splits stock

CHRYSLER, the carmaker, surprised Wall Street yesterday by announcing a two-for-one stock split and a one-sixth rise in its quarterly dividend. Robert Eaton, chairman, told Chrysler's annual meeting that the group would split its stock and boost its dividend to 70 cents a share, from 60 cents on a pre-split basis. With the dividend previously at triple the level at this time two years ago, Wall Street analysts had expected little if any pressure on the carmaker to raise its payout.

## New offer for Elys

THE battle for Elys, the Wimbledon department store, took a new twist yesterday with a recommended bid by Morleys, a private company with four department stores in London's suburbs. The offer of 670p per share compares with an average 600p offered by Panther Securities and rejected by Elys. Andrew Perloff, Panther's executive chairman, said it was considering whether to increase its two-tier offer of 750p for one of every three shares held and 485p for the balance.

## N Brown buys Sartor

N BROWN, the catalogue home-shopping group, has acquired Sartor, a privately owned mail order business based in Bingley, West Yorkshire, for £6 million. Founded in 1917, Sartor supplies garments from a range of catalogues aimed mainly at the over-50s and which includes John Harvey and Watkins & Cole. In the year to June 30, 1995, turnover was £9.7 million and adjusted profits were £900,000 before tax. Sartor has a database of 700,000 customers.

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## LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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### LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the Creditors of the above Company will be held at 11.00 a.m. on 24 May 1996 at 11.00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a Liquidator and to consider the affairs of the Company and to consider the Liquidator's report on the state of the Company's affairs and to consider the Liquidator's proposals for the disposal of the Company's assets.

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# GOOD



Students at King's College, Cambridge: the ancient university has retained its reputation for academic excellence

## Old rivals still close

Cambridge and Oxford remain locked together at the top of the *Times* university league table. Even with two new indicators and a different source of information, only five points out of 1,000 separate the ancient rivals.

**John O'Leary on winners, also-rans and losers in the new *Times* table**

Cambridge and Oxford remain locked together at the top of the *Times* university league table. Even with two new indicators and a different source of information, only five points out of 1,000 separate the ancient rivals.

to degree classifications and graduate employment records, Manchester Metropolitan University has the best score. Glamorgan, Paisley, Nottingham Trent, Sunderland, Kingston and Strathclyde are all close behind.

Paisley and Abertay have moved off the bottom positions they occupied last year. Humberstone and Luton, which replace them, both suffer under the new system of collecting data on accommodation and staffing levels.

As in previous years, the table omits university institutions such as Cranfield and the London Business School, which are wholly or predominantly postgraduate, and also omits the Open University, which restricts itself to distance education.

The table, which will also appear on the *Times* Internet edition, is intended

**'No former polytechnic finished ahead of a traditional university'**

Substantial changes in the ranking can be expected next year, when new research assessments and more detailed ratings of teaching quality will be available. There may also be a wider spread of scores, as some universities are forced to cut back on areas such as staffing levels and library spending.

Only this week, an adjournment debate in the House of Commons focused on the worsening financial prospects for the nine Yorkshire universities. Professor Gareth Roberts, the Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University and chairman of the vice-chancellors' national committee, said a 28 per cent decline in the funding for each student during the past six years was endangering quality.

The ranking is one of the features of a paperback book of *The Times* Good University Guide, which will be published by *Times Books* at the end of the month. It will be on sale in bookshops and can be ordered by phone on 01525 851945.

### THE TIMES LEAGUE TABLE 1996: HOW THE UNIVERSITIES COMPARE

	Staff/student ratio	Library spending	Accommodation	Teaching Assessment	Overseas Students	Graduate Employment	Research	Value Added	1996 Score
	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100	Score 1996 100
1 Cambridge	100	93	69	91	100	55	100	86	100
2 Oxford	98	75	100	88	97	60	88	98	99
3 Imperial	76	100	44	34	96	65	74	77	97
4 Edinburgh	72	74	35	40	93	58	45	77	94
5 St Andrews	73	52	37	100	96	60	40	75	92
6 LSE	83	42	69	37	98	75	30	70	100
7 York	74	68	32	79	95	55	38	78	94
8 Warwick	73	58	28	59	95	56	46	81	90
9 Bristol	73	73	38	40	95	56	37	79	87
10 Nottingham	75	61	34	43	94	57	30	67	86
11 UCL	69	89	29	29	93	57	40	86	90
12 Bath	76	51	34	34	88	57	32	74	92
13 Manchester	72	65	35	43	93	55	32	74	92
14 Southampton	71	69	33	36	92	55	33	72	90
15 UMIST	70	62	23	46	77	61	53	74	93
16 Durham	74	44	26	52	94	58	31	83	84
17 Newcastle	69	70	37	44	80	58	34	72	79
18 Lancaster	70	34	34	60	91	56	26	83	89
19 Birmingham	75	48	39	37	83	55	36	79	80
20 King's College	69	58	35	10	84	60	37	79	84
21 Glasgow	71	61	34	27	88	58	42	74	88
22 Sheffield	74	45	29	38	91	55	31	79	80
23 Sussex	73	41	38	38	77	59	41	69	88
24 Liverpool	69	60	28	28	83	55	28	79	71
25 Royal Holloway	71	42	32	41	79	56	39	69	83
26 Surrey	65	38	30	51	83	57	35	88	75
27 Leeds	72	62	32	40	88	56	35	69	73
28 Reading	67	47	31	43	80	55	35	73	69
29 Essex	67	37	28	46	78	61	30	73	62
30 Buckingham	42	51	50	82	78	100	18	91	24
31 Dundee	55	69	35	26	79	50	35	88	57
32 Stirling	63	39	30	33	88	50	28	82	64
33 East Anglia	66	43	30	40	84	50	30	72	73
34 Aston	70	31	38	45	88	50	33	85	61
35 Aberdeen	66	48	32	38	84	51	25	79	57
36 Loughborough	66	51	27	34	74	50	34	78	67
37 Exeter	68	38	27	47	76	50	26	78	73
38 Brunel	63	31	28	44	76	50	31	89	70
39 Cardiff	67	43	25	39	80	54	28	77	69
40 Kent	71	37	23	47	78	52	32	80	68
41 Swansea	67	42	28	40	77	53	25	78	62
42 Queen Mary & Westfield	67	38	34	17	80	50	31	86	78
43 Aberystwyth	64	41	32	59	78	50	17	72	61
44 Strathclyde	68	37	27	17	84	51	24	75	62
45 City	67	21	26	51	83	51	33	82	60
46 Bangor	58	37	36	41	78	50	26	72	48
47 Heriot-Watt	51	37	28	29	83	50	36	74	60
48 Queen's Belfast	70	38	29	14	86	51	32	82	64
49 Hull	61	28	28	54	81	50	21	75	42
50 Keele	70	32	28	33	76	50	25	70	42
51 Bedford	60	36	20	55	86	52	30	70	42
52 Bradford	59	30	26	30	88	51	27	71	48
53 London Goldsmiths	55	34	27	28	74	50	26	72	48
54 Ulster	61	31	24	11	75	57	34	76	48
55 Loughborough	48	31	31	53	88	50	18	70	47
56 Oxford Brookes	41	30	20	23	78	50	28	65	42
57 Kingston	40	25	28	17	77	50	22	78	42
58 Coventry	44	25	20	18	77	50	18	78	42
59 Sheffield Hallam	48	32	21	12	78	50	14	80	42
60 De Montfort	46	32	20	13	72	50	21	69	42
61 Robert Gordon	27	36	28	24	80	50	20	73	42
62 Northumbria	44	30	25	10	78	50	20	72	42
63 Portsmouth	43	36	21	14	72	50	19	76	42
64 Plymouth	47	28	21	15	77	50	15	76	42
65 Westminster	38	26	24	9	69	56	34	63	37
66 Middlesex	41	25	20	11	69	55	20	63	37
67 UWE Eng. (Bristol)	44	26	23	5	78	50	17	70	37
68 Manchester Metro.	42	24	19	13	78	50	17	68	37
69 Nottingham Trent	41	23	22	14	76	50	19	71	37
70 Hertfordshire	43	27	24	25	72	51	19	72	37
71 Brighton	34	30	24	12	69	58	25	70	37
72 North London	42	26	22	6	72	50	23	70	37
73 Greenwich	40	24	20	22	76	50	16	69	37
74 Teesside	37	21	24	12	69	50	25	67	37
75 Leeds Metro	44	19	15	10	68	50	19	76	37
76 Sunderland	38	19	22	17	66	51	11	68	34
77 Central England	42	20	23	8	74	50	18	60	34
78 Staffordshire	40	26	22	18	69	50	13	70	34
79 Wolverhampton	38	18	21	16	69	54	10	66	34
80 South Bank	38	20	18	8	69	50	21	62	34
81 Napier	34	33	23	5	76	50	14	75	34
82 Huddersfield	44	23	19	5	74	50	15	71	34
83 London Guildhall	38	22	29	7	76	50	13	67	34
84 Anglia	38	21	20	7	77	50	17	73	34
85 Liverpool John Moores	44	28	18	8	69	50	16	71	34
86 Central Lancashire	40	21	18	18	69	50	17	70	34
87 Bournemouth	43	29	20	5	69	50	10	73	34
88 Thames Valley	35	20	26	5	69	57	10	65	34
89 Derby	35	23	18	20	72	60	16	66	34
90 Paisley	29	24	21	15	78	50	10	63	34
91 Abertay, Dundee	28	29	22	21	77	50	10	67	34
92 East London	21	24	19	5	76	56	20	63	34
93 Glamorgan	31	17	20	10	76	58	14	49	34
94 Glasgow Caledonian	38	27	20	7	77	50	18	57	34
95 Humberstone	40	15	14	5	69	50	10	63	34
96 Luton	28	17	18	5	69	50	20	73	34

Raw data on graduate destinations from the Universities Statistical Record and the DfEE. Other raw supplied by the Higher Education Statistics Agency, which does not necessarily concur with data aggregations or manipulations in this table and is not responsible for any inferences or conclusions thereby derived.

## How the league tables are compiled

Tom Cannon and Karen Smith on the changes to the ratings system

This year's ranking has seen more changes than any previous year. The most important developments are the reintroduction of a measure for teaching and the use of data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency, Department for Education and Employment and the Universities Statistical Record.

The tables used in the guide are constructed from a number of sources. The final outcome remains a "poll of polls", constructed by converting raw data described below into individual rankings. A measure of 100 does not equate with an institution achieving 100 per cent against, say, international students. It indicates that the particular university has the highest ranking of those in the table. Other universities are then measured and ranked against that institution.

The first edition of the *University Guide* included information on teaching. Its limited coverage led to the suspension of this category until better data became available. This is

now the case for a wide array of subjects.

Although some subjects are yet to be assessed, a majority of the student population is now covered by official teaching assessments and the disciplines embraced are reasonably representative of the main academic areas.

Some difficulties were caused by the different approaches to teaching assessment adopted by the separate funding councils for England, Wales and Scotland. In the guide, excellent, satisfactory and unsatisfactory ratings were given the same weighting for England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Departments in Scotland classified as highly satisfactory were given a score at the midpoint between satisfactory and excellent. Universities were ranked on an average of their scores.

In previous years, information from individual institutions was col-

lected using a variety of sources. The collated estimates were sent to vice-chancellors to check and correct.

Some commentators questioned the consistency and reliability of this data. Professor Peter Toyn, Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool John Moores University, argued forcibly that data from official, nationally recognised sources should be used, and suggested the new Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA).

Collaboration with HESA, which was set up by the vice-chancellors and college principals, meant that data on staff-student ratios, student accommodation, the proportion of first class degrees awarded and the proportion of international students were available from a single source.

Information on library expenditure was supplied by the Standing Conference of National & University Libraries. Material on employment was constructed using data from the

Department for Education and Employment, and the Universities Statistical Record. The section on research was based on the last completed research assessment exercise undertaken by the Higher Education Funding Councils.

The use of these official sources adds considerably to the *Guide*. It prompted several additional changes. In the past, information on admission standards was based on grades achieved by students winning places at universities. This year, in order to use an official source, the focus shifted to grades required for admission as indicated in the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service's *University and College Entrance: official guide*. Where information was not provided in the official guide, institutions were approached about the grades expected for the same bundle of subjects. The lack of reliable data from a compara-

ble source led to the decision to eliminate data on completion rates.

Inevitably, the use of data for the first time — especially material gathered from new agencies — led to teething troubles. Some element of aggregation is an inevitable feature of efforts to present the data in easily understood and manageable forms.

This aggregation is especially noticeable in the presentation of data on employment. For the large majority of institutions, these were permanent and short-term employment, the proportion of graduates recorded as unemployed and those going on to research and further study. Short-term employment was given less weighting than permanent work.

The hardest indicator to construct is the estimate for value added. This is calculated by taking the entry standards reached in the normal year of entry and using these to project likely outcomes for completion, firsts and employment. These projections are then measured against the actual outcomes using a series of iterations.

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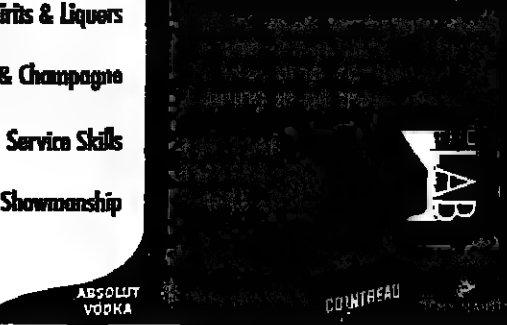
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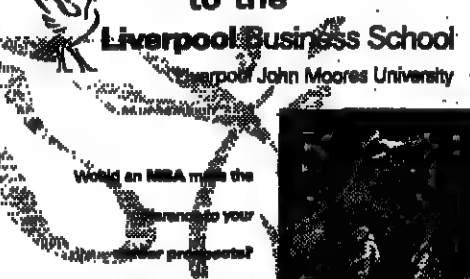
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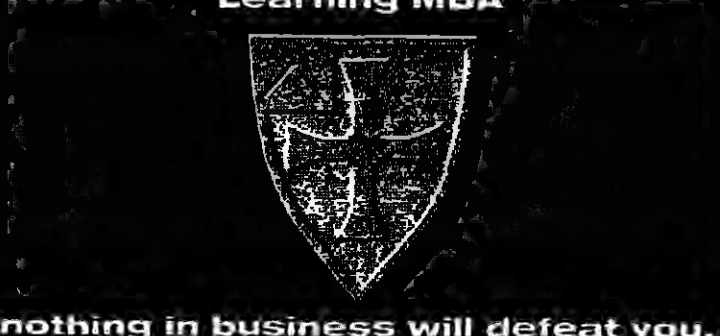
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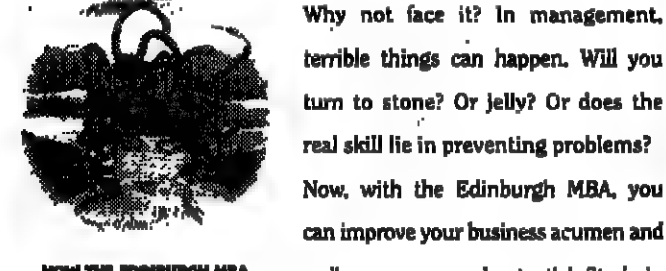
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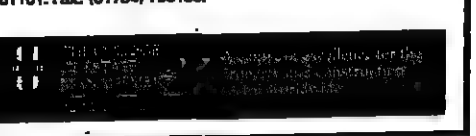
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**OPERA**  
Dawn on the Downs: Miss Upshaw prepares to die nobly on Glyndebourne's opening night



**CABARET**  
... while at the Café Royal Cybill Shepherd goes moonlighting into popular song with sad results

## THE TIMES ARTS



**THEATRE 1**  
The RSC overplays the farce of *Three Hours After Marriage*, a rarity by Pope and Gay



**THEATRE 2**  
A jewel on the Fringe: Peter Moffat displays a Pinteresque touch in his fine new *Iona Rain*

## Pop of the Cork

THIS 24-year-old singer from Cork had the Jazz Café captivated with her understated, almost whispered songs that talk of the fragility of emotions and the high risk of relationships without ever descending into cliché.

Lohan demands that an audience listen to her on her own terms. She opened with a gentle, acoustic version of *Who Do You Think I Am*, the title track from her first album, which managed the unusual feat of silencing the chatterers within seconds. Tall and slender, she sang in a voice as soft as the Cork air as she ran through half a dozen mostly acoustic numbers.

Only when she had the audience hanging on her ev-

**Sinead Lohan**  
Jazz Café

ery word did the band step up a gear with a countryish version of Bob Dylan's *To Ramona*, the only non-original song she performs. "He needs the royalty cheque," she said.

Her own songs display an astonishing maturity, tightly disciplined and never extending to five minutes when three will do. Lohan is less MOR than Mary Black, not as jazzy as Mary Coughlan and although there is a trace of both Sinead O'Connor and Dolores O'Riordan in the voice, she is more subtle than either.

The four-strong band (which includes two former members of Hector Pickens and his Floating Crowbars, the late-lamented and finest exponents of Irish new country) played with a quiet understatement that is rare in noisy metropolitan clubs.

At times the band sounded almost as ethereal as Buffalo Springfield from the late 1960s as guitar and keyboards lent a hypnotic quality to songs such as *See In The Bottle* and *Did I Do The Right Thing*.

By the end Lohan was rocking, albeit still in a folkly sort of way. There are appearances this summer at the Fleadh, London's biggest showcase of Irish music, and the Cambridge Folk Festival. By the autumn nobody will be asking whom she sounds like. They will be asking if the new voices from Ireland are half as good as Lohan.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Bring on Glyndebourne's hecklers, the soprano Dawn Upshaw tells John Higgins



"Will the first night be stormy? If it is, I will know what to expect": Dawn Upshaw looks forward to her Glyndebourne debut in the Peter Sellars *Theodora*

## Martyr to the Sellars cause

Dawn Upshaw is not used to playing the martyr. The American soprano, who is in her mid-thirties, has gained most of her operatic fame impersonating younger and more materialistic girls. There has been plenty of Mozart: Susanna, Pamina and the chambermaid Serpina in *La finta giardiniera*. She sings the two fluffy Sophies, in *Rosentalk* and *Werther*. Recently she has been establishing herself as a lady with a bit more spirit — Anne Trulove in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* — and her recording of the opera comes out next month. Her slim figure and boyish haircut will suit her well for a sex change with her first Cherubino at the Met in the coming season.

But Handel's *Theodora*, which opens the Glyndebourne summer tonight, is a different matter. Upshaw takes the title role, a noblewoman of Antioch in AD 304, who says goodbye to worldly pleasures to defend the Christian faith in the face of Roman oppression. Inevitably she goes to her death after a lengthy duet with her counter tenor admirer, Didymus, one

of the occupation force and a late convert to Christianity.

The production is in the hands of Peter Sellars, a director who inspires fierce loyalties from many of his singers and equally fierce opposition from some of his audience. His *Magic Flute* caused ugly noises at Glyndebourne a few years ago, but the house has stayed faithful to him.

Upshaw admits to being a devotee: "We worked together on Messiaen's *Saint François* at the Salzburg Festival and in Paris, also a few months ago on a staged Bach cantata in New York. Peter has total understanding of the links between music and text. He also has an eerie instinct for what's going on in the private lives of his singers and can

turn that to dramatic advantage. He doesn't delve; it's almost a sixth sense.

"We're playing *Theodora* in contemporary dress, but it is not set in any specific time or place. Peter is making the production realistic and fluid, but he is not taking an aggressive approach. Will the first night be stormy? If it is, then I've had the experience before and will know what to expect. But we're not in it to cause a riot."

The theme of persecution in *Theodora* is one that has always been very close to Sellars's heart. Did he choose Upshaw for the title role? "I hope so. I was certainly not known as a Handel specialist. The offer came while I was in Santa Fe, singing my only other Handel, *Romilda* in

*Xerxes*. I looked at *Theodora* and found that it was lower and less florid. Neither of those points could be counted a minus, so I accepted."

This will be Upshaw's debut with the Glyndebourne Festival on its home ground. When it was in exile in the Festival Hall in 1993, she sang Hero in Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédict* — "Nice role. I get the best music."

In between she sold a million records with the slow movement from Górecki's Third Symphony, which took by surprise everyone on the composer and the soprano to the record label. Górecki is supposed to be producing a new work for her and the Kronos Quartet, but it has not yet arrived (surprise takes a little time to work through the

system). So some recent records have come from a totally different sphere, notably *I Wish It So*, songs from American musicals of the grittier kind which won her the Gramophone award in the music-theatre category last year. Next month sees an album of Rodgers and Hart, including some little played items.

"When I went to college, I thought my future would probably lie in stage musicals," she says. "Both my parents sang folk music, and from the age of about five I was joining in. I did some amateur productions in my teens, but once into study, I was sidetracked into Mozart and remained there for some time."

So would she take to the musical stage if the right piece came along? "Only under certain conditions, such as a performance every third night. I couldn't bear to do the same thing evening after evening. I need variety in my life and in my career."

*Theodora* is certainly going to provide that.

● *Theodora* opens at Glyndebourne Opera House, Lanes, East Sussex (01273 813131) tonight

## Moonlighting star shines dim

THE Princess of Wales caused some merriment by loitering in an operating theatre, but it would not have been quite so funny, would it, if she had been allowed to wield a scalpel? Cybill Shepherd's presence in the Green Room is every bit as incongruous. Forget scalpels, though. The only implement this woman knows how to use is a bludgeon.

In reality, this was less a concert, more a rather crowded therapy session. Shepherd, you see, has always believed she has the ability to be a singer, and in the age of celebrity and self-validation there is no reason why she should not be allowed to go on the road with her fiancé-cum-pianist, Robert Martin.

The poor-woman's Marlene Dietrich, she puts on a fancy gown, tells a few self-deprecating jokes and expects the audience to listen sympathetically as she ruins *That's Life* and *But Not For Me*. And they do, of course, because Shepherd is a VIP and she wants everyone to join her in celebrating "the third act of this incredible career". A star — even of a middling sit-com — gets what she wants.

Viewers who saw her on

**CABARET**  
Cybill Shepherd  
Café Royal

*The Gaby Roslin Show* last weekend will have known what to expect: all in all, she is to singing what Roslin is to interviewing. The best way to approach the opening night was in the same resigned spirit in which the Tories greeted the local elections.

All to no avail. The live performance proved even luckier, even down to the brazen use of pre-recorded backing tracks. By turns shrill and coquettish, her voice seldom intersected with the melody; she seems to think that pitch is something that you make in a producer's office.

If you do not mind paying to gawp at a VIP indulging her hobby, go along. But you might as well pay to watch Bruce Forsyth play golf or to see Joan Collins put on her make-up. Ah, no, that is below the belt. Bruce can sink a putt and Joan looks quite nice.

CLIVE DAVIS

## The iron man

FEW audiences can resist a little anarchic applause after the third movement of Tchaikovsky's *Pathétique* Symphony, so a virtuoso piano transcription of this Scherzo is likely to provide a surefire send-off for any recitalist. And this was how 24-year-old Arkady Volodos chose to make his mark in his London debut.

It was almost as if he felt he had to justify the hype which had heralded him — and, indeed, the august presence of colleagues and compatriots such as Nikolai Demidenko and Dmitri Alexeev. It was certainly a loud and idiosyncratic programme.

He began with another Feinberg transcription, this time of the Largo from Bach's Organ Trio Sonata in C major, which immediately revealed a warm-hearted performer, totally at ease with the tricky task of balancing the three-part texture of the music and folding the decorative upper voices gently into the defining song of the bass.

Schubert's E major Sonata D157 was treated as no mere piece of Schubertian juvenilia: Volodos heard the strength

**RECITAL**  
Arkady Volodos  
Wigmore Hall

and the soul of the last sonatas already in the music's harmonic adventures and fleshed them out boldly and brilliantly. Scriabin's Sonata No 5 Op 53 balanced impulsive energy with clarity of structure. Volodos has nerves and muscles of iron, and an interpretative assurance which makes you eager to hear him again.

His recital was shared with two young contemporaries from the Paris Conservatoire: cellist Jerome Pernoo and pianist Jerome Ducros. In their Cello Sonatas by Beethoven (C major) and Brahms (F major), they showed themselves to be true chamber-music players: minutely attentive, imaginatively recreative and uncovering many a forgotten voice in both cello and piano. They, too, must return soon.

HILARY FINCH

THEATRE: Satire by Gay and Pope spoilt by RSC monkey business; London Fringe round-up

Polonius would categorise this as farcical-satirical-over-the-top, and it is because of the last that Richard Cottrell's debut production for the RSC is less successful than a reading of the text had promised. The play is one of those obscure pieces the company unearthed from time to time, unperformed for centuries, and in this case worth digging out for the rare glimpse it offers of the giants of the Augustan Age having fun making fun.

Alexander Pope, 4ft high or whatever in his stockinged feet, was no physical giant, but his wit could fell a fellow the size of town. Ridiculing a ripe collection of poseurs is the intention of the play, on which the youthful Pope collaborated with John Gay, he of *The Beggar's Opera*, and Dr Arbuthnot, the Royal Physician. Posturing lady-tragedians are no longer a menace to the stage — although, now I think about it... no, let it pass — and pompous critics, another target, have of course vanished from the earth. To-

## Laugh until you stop

**Three Hours After Marriage**  
Swan, Stratford

day there is only a little amusement to be found in these characters, who are fortunately peripheral.

The main plot shows how elderly Dr Fossil (Clive Francis) just manages to keep his newly married young wife out of the clutches of two gallants. Plotwell and Underplot, who pursue her in a variety of wild disguises. The blissfully funny climax occurs when an Egyptian mummy and an alligator are delivered to Fossil's museum. Perhaps it is only to be expected that, when the mummy case's door swings open, out shuffles Richard McCabe's Plotwell, so tightly swaddled in bandages that he must advance towards



Clive Francis, Adam Godley and Richard McCabe get silly

his love in little hops. But the comedy is capped when the alligator up-ends itself and proves to be Adam Godley's dashing Underplot.

Francis has the look and posture of a bemused, yet

never quite undignified, old gentleman, and he gives the character a voice that sometimes sounds as if delivered by well-oiled clockwork.

Transparently sexual puns occur in the original, and

Cottrell adds others, as well as an attempt to give motivation to Susannah's choice of Fossil as husband. But Jane Gurnett's hard playing does not raise the character above the level of a calculating cipher.

However, a more serious damage is done to the play by transposing it from 1717 to the mid-Victorian era, where men's smoking caps look funny enough for farce but not a farce that exhibits such bravado about libido. As if aware that something is not right, Cottrell introduces servants barking astonishment in unison, chases around the gallery, entrances by rope and exits by trap door.

Inevitably, these measures are a waste of time. At such moments the eye turns to Tim Goodchild's astonishing set: a wall of curiosities — giant dragonflies, small dinosaurs, a giraffe and a stuffed dodo. The play itself is no dodo and misguided stuffing has distorted its shape.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## Hearts' bonds dissolve in a hard rain

**FRINGE**

Tanya Scott-Wilson's crudely leering Fanny Squeers and Paul De Ville Morel's nerdy Nicholas Nickleby. There are a few amusing moments as a floppy-armed corpse gets frisky with Martin Chuzzlewit's Mrs Gamp but there is no darkness or tension. The late burst of experimentalism misfires, with Nancy launching into *Stand By Your Man* as she is felled by Sykes.

However, at the Finborough Theatre in Earl's Court, the new London-based Irish company Liffey Street presents a highly commendable revival of Ger FitzGibbon's *The Rock Station*, set in 1866. Stuck in a wooden lighthouse off the West Coast, two brothers find themselves fatally entwined with Fenianism. The claustrophobic restrictions

generate the power, upping the temperature as Peter, who has tried to escape his family, quarrels with Eddie, who arrives and ransacks the place, warning of the arrival of inspectors searching for an arms cache.

The brothers are a complex mix of naivety and harsh experience, paranoia and carelessness, fully fleshed-out while symbolising Ireland's historic infighting. The action does get creaky, and the climactic fire is rapidly staged. But the whitewashed set and the Finborough's curving rear wall make a fine spartan lighthouse and the energy never flags, with Steven Dykes as the sturdy seadog Peter and Brendan Fleming as his younger sibling, seemingly breezy but dangerous.

KATE BASSETT



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## CHOICE 1

**Damien Hirst, one of the attractions of the British Art Show in Cardiff**

VENUE: See below for details

## CHOICE 2

**Dancer Trisha Brown launches her UK tour at the Brighton Festival**

VENUE: Tonight at the Theatre Royal, Brighton

## POP 1

**Back to the heavy metal: the Smashing Pumpkins show their defiantly unreformed side**

## POP 2

**...and it's business as usual, too, in the dependable world of Richard Thompson**

## From a whisper to a scream

LINDSAY MAGGS

Smashing Pumpkins  
Brixton Academy

Back in 1993, when Smashing Pumpkins started selling millions of copies of *Siamang*, singer-songwriter Billy Corgan decided that the band's next record would be a double album, with acoustic songs on one record and rock tracks on the other. Last year's *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* was not quite as structured as that, but this show — which began with a 40-minute acoustic set, followed by two-and-a-half hours of heavy-duty rock — was probably the kind of thing Corgan had in mind.

For the first set, Corgan, guitarist James Iha and bassist D'Arcy perched themselves on high stools to play acoustically, while Jimmy Chamberlin hit a very modest drum kit. They began with their current single, *Tonight*, which seemed written to be heard this way, but there was very little reprieve between the members of the band until they opened their attempts to play *Beautiful*.

When they returned to the stage for the main set, they made it clear that they were intent on rocking out by wearing different clothes. D'Arcy had swapped a delicate white dress for jeans and a T-shirt, while Corgan wore silver trousers, his shaven head — formerly covered by a woolly hat — now bare.

The word "zero", which was



Billy Corgan, sensitive singer-songwriter, at the Academy. Corgan, the heavy metal rock-god, made a later appearance

emblazoned across Corgan's sweatshirt and is also the title of one of the songs, summed up the changes that Smashing Pumpkins have undergone. Once regarded as a highly fashionable grunge band, they have now retreated back into the terminally unstylish world of heavy metal, drawing on original inspirations such as

Black Sabbath and Judas Priest. But although most of the songs relied on squalling guitars, gigantic riffs and a series of clichéd rock poses, there was still room for subtlety. This was best shown when Iha sang the Cure's *Boys Don't Cry*, which segued into the Pumpkins' own best-known

balled *Disarm*, before panning out into the raging *Bullet With Butterfly Wings*. During the first encore, Iha sang the Prodigy's chart-topping *Firestarter*, which seemed apt, since the music of both bands incorporates all sorts of things but ultimately revolves around extremely heavy metal. Thank you for

putting up with the eternal rock show," Corgan said towards the end, admitting that it was "talking to the audience as well as the band". It was demanding on the attention span but, unlike the fickle indie kids, rockers are used to getting their money's worth.

ANN SCANLON

Untouched  
by fame

Richard Thompson  
Albert Hall

IF LIVING monuments to popular creativity were celebrated in the same way as the historic buildings in which they work, the Arts Council would have given Richard Thompson a generous grant long ago. As it was, on Wednesday evening the ever-unassuming singer-guitarist had to make do with a wisecrack about the £40 million lottery windfall the Albert Hall has been granted. But Thompson, too, is a symbol of the nation's cultural heritage, a quietly British and steeped in integrity, if a little musty.

In the latter chapter of his career Thompson has been presented as the thinking fan's rock hero, his foot always in the door of the mainstream but denied true stardom by a combination of choice and circumstance.

There are signs that Thompson, his material and his loyal followers are now becoming mutually unfamiliar. The feeling here was of an audience

visiting a dependable friend rather than an intriguing acquaintance, and his current double album *You're Me? Us?* may have been another blow-out meal too soon after the rich feast of his predecessors, *Rumour & Sigh* and *Mirror Ball*.

But how could you vote against someone who can work both acoustic and electric guitars like instruments of magic? A set of two-and-a-quarter hours may have been asking the audience to loosen its vainglorious, but many of the morsels on offer were still too tempting to turn down. Several recalled the days of his partnership with his former wife, Linda, as he opened with *When I Get to the Border* and *Walking on a Wire*, later giving *I Want to See the Bright Lights Tonight* a rare outing.

By then, his excellent band was fully powered up, Danny Thompson's double bass and Dave Matlack's drums and occasional keyboards providing the bedrock, while Pete Zorn stole several songs with redoubtable contributions on saxophone, guitar and vocals.

Thompson wielded his electric guitar like an ardent welder with a grudge on *Put It There* and unveiled a new song, *Cold Kisses*, whose claustrophobic intensity reflects the insecurity of the relationship it describes.

PAUL SEXTON

In Sade's  
shadow

Lighthouse Family  
Forum, NWS

SADE ADU is one of those rare and fortunate artists able to play the pop game to please herself. Her mellow, mid-paced sound has proved to have an appeal beyond fashion; once every five or six years she releases a new album that varies little from its predecessors, watches it sell a cool few million copies, and then slips out of the public eye again. The only surprise is that no other act has volunteered to stand in for her in the interim.

But the emergence of this year of the Lighthouse Family suggests that, at last, a successful applicant for the vacant role of Sade stand-in may have been found. A duo comprising keyboardist Paul Tucker and vocalist Tunde Baiyewu, their introductory album *Ocean Drive* is more song-based than Sade's groove-driven releases, but the similarities remain striking. Both singers project an artless, atmospheric quality to compen-

sate for a lack of vocal athleticism, and there is a shared fondness for using a pretty tune to sneak sometimes dark and socially realistic subject-matter past the ears of the casual listener.

In the Lighthouse Family's case, this is most true on the self-written title track of their album — a message of hope to a victim of domestic violence. It was greeted here as if it were already as familiar and welcome as an established football-terrace anthem. This positivity runs through almost all of their songs and is a defining element that helps the Newcastle-based pair to avoid the charge of being mere copyists. And nowhere was it more evident than in the debut single *Lifed*, co-written with former Kane Gang member Martin Brammer, a decisive Top Five success earlier this year.

Elsewhere, another Brammer composition, *Love Every Minute*, and the tracks *Goodbye Heartbreak* and *Heavenly* were among the highlights of a proficient set propelled by the duo's five-piece touring band. As with Sade, there is the sense that the live experience offers little that cannot be found on the records themselves. From the rapturous reception given to Tucker and Baiyewu, however, there is also the sense that — again like Sade — the Lighthouse Family could go on to sell millions.

ALAN JACKSON

## LONDON

**MUSIC ON THE SOUTH BANK:** Kravitz, Chappelle, and the Festival Hall (7.30pm), playing piano sonatas by Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert. Over at the Queen Elizabeth Hall (7.45pm), the West End Ensemble plays a medley including Debussy's *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* and Messiaen's *Quatuor pour la fin du monde*, played by his widow, the pianist Yvonne Loriod. The music continues at the Festival Hall on Sunday (7.30pm) with the Prague Symphony Orchestra under Jirí Bělohradský, and Ralph Kinstlebaum playing Elgar's *Cello Concerto* (South Bank, SE1 011-999 2252).

**MOSTLY SCANDINAVIAN:** Mark Jansson conducts the Royal Philharmonic in *Finlandia* and *Valde Leila* by Sibelius and Schumann's *Symphony No 2*, interspersed with Greg's Piano Concerto, played by the young Swedish Peter Jönback. (Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 011-999 8891, Tomorrow, 7.30pm.)

**WIMBORNE HALL:** A mixed programme from Alexander Skolnik, cello, and Roger Vignoles, piano, including the London premiere of *Worms* by Karel Schäfer (Friday, 7.30pm). On Saturday (7.30pm) the Leipzig String Quartet plays Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven's *Clavier Concerto* (with Joy Farrow), followed on Sunday (11.30am) by Haydn, Beethoven and Brahms. (Wimborne Hall, Wimborne St, London W1 011-936 2141.)

**COMPANY:** Adrian Lester, Sheila Gail, Sophie Thompson in an excellent staging of *Sondheim's* latest musical on marriage, pro and contra. (Albany, St Mark's Lane, WC2 011-999 1500, Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Wed and Sat, 3pm.)

**DEFINITELY DORIS:** Revue-style musical celebrating the life and songs of Doris Day. High school comedy. (Theatre Royal, 119 Upper Street, N1 011-226 1816, Tue-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat and Sun, 3.30pm, Sun May 20, 2pm.)

**ENDGAME:** Alan Armstrong and Stephen Dillane in *King Lear*, a production of middle-aged Beckett. (Drama Theatre, South Bank, SE1 011-999 1789, Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs and Sat, 4pm, Sun May 20, 2pm.)

**MARY STUART:** Superb playing by Anna Massey as *Schiller's* Virgin Queen. French actress Isabelle Huppert joins with the language of the French Revolution. (National, Leicester, South Bank, SE1 011-999 2252, Tonight-Tue, 7.30pm; mat Sat, Tue & 1.50pm in rep.)

**THE PAINTER OF DISHONOUR:** Caden's *Portrait of a Woman*, with John Copley as the tortured painter, Laurence Bouvard directs. (Theatre Royal, 119 Upper Street, N1 011-999 1789, Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Thurs and Sat, 4pm, Sun May 20, 2pm.)

**PHAROS:** Dan Perry's debut of dancers in *Worms* returns to its building-site set. High energy stuff.

## WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Mackay

## ELSEWHERE

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## WEEKEND CHOICE

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**POP 3**  
Ninety million albums later, the hard-rockin', hard-livin' show still goes on for AC/DC



**POP 4**  
Without Richey, the Manic Street Preachers head for the big time with *Everything Must Go*

# THE TIMES POP ARTS



**POP 5**  
... but on their new *Down on the Upside* Soundgarden seem to have gone tired and puerile



**POP 6**  
A sizzling snapshot of the club world comes courtesy of the DJ duo, the Chemical Brothers

## NEW ALBUMS

### Gentle genius of the sitar

**RAVI SHANKAR**  
*In Celebration* (Angel/Dark Horse 7243 5 55577 2 8, 4CDs)  
WHEN you realise that Ravi Shankar, as a teenage member of his brother's dance troupe, used to slip into the Cotton Club to listen to Cab Calloway, the subsequent course of his career takes on a degree of logic. The seed of his fascination with other cultures was planted at the very beginning, before he took the decisive step of submitting himself to the single-minded discipline of mastering the sitar.  
Judged by the brittle standards of the 1960s counterculture, Shankar was bound to appear a forbidding ascetic come down from the mountains. How else could this gentle virtuoso have coped with audiences at Monterey? Yet his instrument dissolved the barriers of language, custom and age.  
That his playing goes beyond mere category is the dominant theme of this majestic retrospective, compiled in honour of his 75th birthday last year. Multi-disc collections should always be approached with caution, since producers can rarely resist the temptation to dredge up every last sliver of ephemera. In this case, Alan Kozlowski and Shankar's most famous pupil, George Harrison, have assembled the material, new and old, with exemplary care.  
Rather than following a chronological line, the contents are divided into four broad categories: classical sitar, orchestral and ensembles, east-west collaboration and vocal and experimental. From the pop and jazz lover's point of view the last disc is the most provocative, with Bud Shank and Gary Peacock joining forces on *Fire Night*, and Harrison and Billy Preston contributing to the unabashedly simple theme of *I Am Missing You*.  
But the essence of Shankar's philosophy is to make categories irrelevant. Whether his collaborator is Zubin Mehta, Jean-Pierre Rampal or Zakir Hussain, his music possesses the same unstoppable pulse.

CLIVE DAVIS

Starting a British tour, AC/DC talk to David Sinclair about sex and destruction

## Electric Sado-land



AC/DC have survived the rock 'n' roll circus with humour and hearing intact — "We're hoping to get a pension"

Having spent the evening being hoisted to the rafters astride a giant wrecking ball, swinging upside-down from a two-ton bell, orchestrating a deafening fusillade of cannon fire and screaming his guts out in front of 14,000 rabid AC/DC fans in Frankfurt's Festhalle, singer Brian Johnson is holding forth in his hotel bar. A born entertainer, he is telling jokes in a broad Geordie accent with a panache that many a stand-up comic would envy.  
Spying the man from *The Times*, he launches into the one about a dishevelled old tramp who shuffles into a compartment on a commuter train and picks up a copy of the *Times* crossword. Looking at the first clue, "Eggs on (5)", he instantly fills in the answer. A stridor round the carriage, and a curious businessman leans over to see what this unlikely genius has put. Written in a confident scrawl is the legend: "toast".  
It is a curiously heartwarming fact that in the world of AC/DC the answers to the great crossword puzzle of life are also a lot simpler than they might at first appear. The band, which has sold 92 million albums since convening in Sydney in 1973, has survived the vicissitudes of life in one of the hardest rocking circuses with both its hearing and sense of humour intact.  
At the heart of this extraordinary phenomenon are the Young brothers, Angus (41, lead guitar, schoolboy shorts) and Malcolm (43, rhythm guitar). They are both tiny (5ft 2in), chain-smoking teetotalers, who spend most of their time laughing like drains. A pair of rock 'n' roll fundamentalists, with the emphasis on the fun, they continue to mount a show that is one of the wonders of rock, a colossal display of theatrical stunts underpinned by the most basic guitar-band philosophy: keep it simple, stick to what you know and avoid anything that smacks of self-analysis like the plague.  
"I didn't join a rock 'n' roll band to be a casualty," Angus says. "There's a romantic myth that you should live fast and die young — the James Dean thing. AC/DC are here to disprove all that. We're hoping to get a pension."  
Like the 16 albums before it, their current opus, *Back in Black*, is loosely organised

around the theme of sex with dominant women. "We've found that if you're locked up for two or three months with four other guys, that tends to be the direction your thoughts take," Malcolm explains.  
They are also big on destruction. The current show begins with the stage decked out as a "castle", which is swiftly and spectacularly reduced to rubble by a wrecking ball, and in the video of their last single, *Hard as a Rock*, they pulled off the same trick on the front of their record company offices. Was there any particular message in that one?  
"Yeah. Wake up!" Malcolm says, without a hint of rancour. "We've never changed

record label, but they've changed over the years and sometimes they haven't quite known how to deal with us." You can see their problem. For although AC/DC are perennially immune to shifting fashions, trying to fit them into the modern British pop landscape is no easy task.  
"I've always been let down by England," Malcolm says. "We've never had any airplay there and it's never hindered us, but I've often wondered why you never hear any rock 'n' roll — Deep Purple, Led Zeppelin, stuff like that — on the radio in England. I'm beginning to think it's a bit political, like it used to be in communist Russia."

In fact, Malcolm, who has a 15-year-old daughter and an 11-year-old son, is more in touch with contemporary pop culture than he would like to be. "I come home and it's all posters of Damon Albarn and Radio 1 and all that bubblegum shit that I hate," Angus, however, remains defiantly cocooned from recent developments: "Oasis? Something in the desert, isn't it?"  
But there is one place in the media where AC/DC are always on view: proudly emblazoned (along with Metallica) on the T-shirts of those cartoon adolescent lunkheads Beavis and Butt-Head. Indeed, with their schoolboy shorts and incessant, gurgling laughter,

you inevitably wonder where their creator, Mike Judge, went for his original inspiration.  
"I met the guy [Judge]," Angus says, pondering more seriously for a moment, "and I wasn't too sure if he was laughing at us or quite what the angle was. But it's nice to be part of a youth culture, if you can call it that. Or perhaps bacteria would be closer to the mark."

## Hacks can get it right

Even if an album is a dud, fans do not believe the reviews

The question raised by the second successive Cranberries' album to be truly appalling is very simple: how long can a band be rubbish before everyone notices?  
The answer, as so often, is a little more complicated. There are two methods of finding out if a band have run out of the spooky magic that ensures the air is filled with their aural Angel Delight for years to come: flipping up the CeeFax Top 40 (what the public think of it) and blackening your fingertips on yards of newsprint (what the critics think of it). But this is where the problems start — in the main, music journalists work at odds with the general record-buying public. The way journalists consume records and bands — an average of 70 singles

are live — they are down the front, jumping up and down, and cannot see the band anyway. And they are generally unconcerned with "progression". Some of the most welcoming albums of this year — by the Bluetones, Ocean Colour Scene, Cast and Marion — are hardly bulging-eyed forays into the Great Unknown; yet they have racked up sales by being slabs of good-natured loveliness or evocative soul-wailing. With top tunes.

The truth is that the press works wildly out of tune with the public's interest. All the hoopla around *Parlophone* was a delayed reaction to Blur's previous album, *Modern Life Is Rubbish*, which was ignored until each successive single reminded journalists just how good it was. Conversely, Oasis's second album, *What's The Story?*, was given a royal kicking by journalists miffed by Noel's fading affability and remarks about Damon Albarn and Aids. Two months later, those selfsame journalists were reassessing the album in the light of Oasis's astonishing success — because an English band becoming huge worldwide is a thrill, and hacks are always desperate to follow the thrill.

So is it any wonder that the general public tend to ignore disparaging reviews of established artists? Most readers are aware that journalists have agendas, vendettas or vested interests. The Cranberries' *To The Faithful Departed* has, to my knowledge, received only two good reviews, but Cranberries fans are aware of a long-running feud between Dolores and the press. The fact that the record is an embarrassing mess will not be noticed for months to come yet — more than enough time for it to rack up gold-disc status. Still, Tape & Record Exchange will be busy come the summer.



CAITLIN MORAN

## POP ALBUMS: Message for Richey Edwards — your old mates are ready to conquer the world

**MANIC STREET PREACHERS**  
*Everything Must Go* (Epic 483930)  
THE first Manic Street Preachers album since the disappearance of guitarist Richey Edwards is released on Monday, and already rumblings of discontent from their earliest fans have been heard in the letters pages of the music press. However, complaints that the band has hung around too long and lost its revolutionary zeal only add weight to the impression that massive mainstream success is now there for the taking, a view confirmed by the magisterial sweep of the songs on *Everything Must Go*.  
Sounding more than ever like Queen without the jokes on numbers such as *Australia* and the epic single *A Design For Life*, the band has honed its melodic rock style into a more coherent shape and taken a step back from the melodramatic nihilism of their last album, *The Holy Bible*. Edwards continues to exert his influence in the form of several lyrics which he left behind, and those of his disciples still searching for clues to the thoughts that burdened his troubled mind will find plenty to chew on in lines such as "Aimless rut of my own perception/Numbly waiting for voices to tell me", from *Removables*.  
But for the greater part *Everything Must Go* is a confident assertion of the band's viability and determination to progress without Edwards. In particular, the Phil Spector-ish title track is a painful, but ultimately buoyant, statement of their intent to wipe the slate clean and start again: "Freed from the memory/Escape from our history... Everything must go." It sounds like the end of an era and the start of something big.

## Main Street Preachers



The Manics: without Richey but with a great new album

**SOUNDGARDEN**  
*Down on the Upside* (A&M 540 526)  
OF THE three titans to have emerged intact from the grunge upheaval (the others being Smashing Pumpkins and Pearl Jam), it is Soundgarden who have ended up conforming most closely to the traditional heavy rock model.  
Their fifth album casts the net a little wider than before in terms of pacing and instrumental textures, stretching the formula to embrace the ramalama punk blast of *No Attention*, the (initially) sedate Beatles pastiche, *Blow up the Outside World*, and the murky surrealism of the end section of *Applebite*. But somewhere along the

way the marvellous, weighty swing of their previous masterpieces, *Black Hole Sun* and *Fell on Black Days*, has been lost. And where the lyrics of those songs were genuinely dark and menacing, the puerile "F--- you all" chorus of *Ty Cobb* merely sounds gratuitous and rather lame.

**VARIOUS ARTISTS**  
**MIXED BY THE CHEMICAL BROTHERS**  
*Live at the Social Volume 1* (Heavenly HMVLP13)  
IT IS not a live album, nor is the music "mixed" so much as selected, sequenced and spliced together by DJ duo the Chemical Brothers. But with tracks by Red Snapper, Eric B & Rakim, Davy DMX, Tainted Glass and many others, *Live at the Social Volume 1* is nevertheless a sizzling snapshot of what goes on at the Social, one of the essential ports of call in the club world since its inception in a dingy West End cellar in 1994.  
Having worked closely with Noel Gallagher, Manic Street Preachers and the Charlatans (whose remixed *Nine Acre Dust* features on this album), the Chemical Brothers yield to none in their uncanny ability to marshal hardcore dance music that is acceptable to the rock'n'roll ear. And extraordinary things happen when they get behind the decks.  
Favouring choppy funk or rock rhythms — especially on their own track *Get Up On It Like This* — as opposed to the dull, four-on-the-floor thud that is the besetting vice of so much latterday dance music, the Brothers create a seamless, rapidly shifting sequence of tracks, fired by a gradually escalating patchwork of propulsive, cross-cutting beats.

Unusually for a dance album, it absolutely and unequivocally rocks.

**SUPER FURRY ANIMALS**  
*Fuzzy Logic* (Creation CRECD190)  
THE debut album by Cardiff-based Super Furry Animals sounds like a bit of an in-joke at first. An unlikely stew of glam-rock influences (early Bowie, Eno-era Roxy Music) and lyrically spun lyrics ("Gravity you just hold me down"), it comes tarred up with all sorts of odd, progressive-rock doodlings and naïf touches of bubblegum pop.  
But there are too many neat twists and winning choruses, such as the naggingly toasting single, *God! Show Me Magic*, for Fuzzy Logic not to mean serious business. Left-field enough to be credible but poppy enough to be popular, these guys are definitely on, and on to something.

### SINGLE

**RICKY ROSS**  
*Radio On* (Epic 663135)  
DEACON BLUE were always a difficult group to get a handle on: a bit pop, a bit rock, loyal to their Glasgow roots but often sounding more American than British. Now singer and songwriter Ricky Ross has embarked on a solo career and, if nothing else, he nails his colours to the mast with *Radio On*.  
Beginning with a wailing harmonica, it ploughs into a taut, bluesy chord sequence lifted straight from the Keith Richards songbook and guided by Ross's languid vocal into a romping chorus with the kind of feel-good factor that pop stars, like politicians, would give anything to be able to bottle.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Elvis Costello & The Attractions

All this Useless Beauty

The New Album

# nonsense prevails

modesty fails

Live Dates

London  
Empire (6-13) Empire  
July 30th 12th 11th 10th

Liverpool  
Royal Court Theatre  
July 20th

Glasgow  
Barrowlands  
July 21st

### TOP TEN COUNTRY ALBUMS

- 1 Timeless..... Daniel O'Donnell & Mary Duff (Ritz)
- 2 Fresh Horses..... Garth Brooks (Capitol)
- 3 In Pieces..... k.d. lang (Sire)
- 4 Ingénue..... Steve Earle (Transatlantic)
- 5 I Feel Alright..... Daniel O'Donnell (Ritz)
- 6 Especially for You..... George Strait (MCA)
- 7 Blue Clear Sky..... Mavericks (MCA)
- 8 Music for All Occasions..... Daniel O'Donnell (Ritz)
- 9 Last Waltz..... Iris de Merit (Warner Bros)
- 10 Infamous Angel.....

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# Essex enjoy no respite with Hooper in control

By JACK BAILEY

ILFORD (first day of four; Kent won toss): Kent have scored 323 for four wickets against Essex.

ESSEX and Carl Hooper have this love-hate relationship. Hooper loves the sight of Essex coming in to bat. Yesterday saw no improvement for the county. Not only did Essex lose the toss on a bitterly cold day, but their chilled and numb fingers were given no respite as Hooper moved past his third consecutive score of over a hundred against them in the championship.

As he is prone to do, Hooper went on to make his century a big one. He reached 155 before being brilliantly caught, just above the ground, by Nasser Hussain running round from the mid-wicket to the square leg boundary. It had been a magnificent innings — three hours and 20 minutes of wonderfully clean hitting mixed, periodically, with bouts of watchful defence.

Hooper's first scoring stroke, three balls after he entered the fray, with Kent teetering on 89 for three, was a straight six off Childs. Having thus announced himself, he went on to strike the ball effortlessly out of the ground on two successive occasions off Law and sprinkled his innings with 20 fours.

He was ably supported, in a fourth-wicket stand that realised 224 from 49 overs, by Graham Cowdrey, who was within sight of his own century when rain brought a merciful release for Essex some 20 overs early. Cowdrey has hit 14 fours so far in an innings which saw the square cover drive in excess, the hallmark of a Cowdrey in form.

The day had begun reasonably well from an Essex point of view. Prichard brought on

Such as early as the twelfth over and before long the tall off-spinner had Fleming, never quite comfortable in his role as opening batsman, caught behind as he tried to force on the off side.

Childs removed Ward in similar manner. Ward tried to cut a ball of too full a length for the stroke and it looked as though the old combination that has served Essex so well over the years might succeed in tempting and taunting Kent into submission.

When Fulton was bowled by Such off what looked like a thick bottom edge, only 89 were on the board, despite a good pitch and a short, straight boundary, and Essex were in the ascendancy. With the advent of Hooper, however, the feigning factor did not last long. Fulton had already displayed some pleasing back-foot driving on his way to 34 and Hooper soon confirmed that there was no devil in this wicket.

He announced his intentions early, moving down the wicket to the slow bowlers, driving along the ground if he got to the pitch of the ball, lifting it over the boundary on the rare occasion when he failed to get there. His first 50 came from 69 balls and he reached it just after lunch. His second took only 31 balls and he reached 150 just 40 balls after passing his century.

Even the Essex supporters could scarce forbear to cheer as Hooper moved from 45 to 151 between lunch and tea and he and Cowdrey put on 177 in 37 overs.

□ Brian Lara was reprimanded by the West Indian board for comments attributed to him after his team's defeat by Kenya during the World Cup this year. Any future breach of contract would attract "the strongest condemnation and action", the board added.



Hooper sweeps the ball away to the boundary during a sparkling innings of 155 against Essex at Ilford yesterday

## Stemp exposes Durham's wounds

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

CHESTER-LE-STREET (first day of four; Yorkshire won toss): Durham, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 316 runs behind Yorkshire.

IN two revealing hours last night the poverty of Durham's cricket was exposed like a painful wound. Yorkshire, nine wickets down for 225, were allowed to add a further 110 and then take three wickets, including that of Campbell, the West Indies opener, for a third-ball duck. At this rate, Durham will do well to take this match into the third day.

It should have been Chris Scott's day. The wicketkeeper established a club record when he held his sixth catch,

and he ended the Yorkshire innings with a seventh. His achievement could not mask the deficiencies of the bowling, which was too short and too wide as Stemp and Silverwood made the highest last-wicket partnership against Durham.

Stemp made his maiden half-century, 65 from 69 balls, with a freedom of stroke not often seen in a No 11. Early in his innings, he hit Boiling for a straight six, at which point Roseberry withdrew his off spinner from the attack after 34 consecutive overs. His decision was not vindicated by the triple Foster and Collingwood served up for Stemp's consideration.

By the end, Silverwood had picked up the beat and the runs the pair shared came

from only 19 overs, without a hint of slog. The bowling was so poor they proceeded comfortably at almost six an over. It was a shame Stemp had to spoil things by waving his bat at his team-mates, and nobody else, when he reached fifty but cricketers think that is the way to behave these days.

The spectators certainly deserved an acknowledgement, not least for braving a bitterly cold day. When Yorkshire lost their openers in the first three overs it seemed those hardy souls would enjoy watching their team bowl out their neighbours cheaply.

The pitch is not ideal, with some balls scuttling through and others popping, and Bevan had to play well for his 90 to hold the innings together.

Byas, leg-before to one that crept, was a shade unlucky. White, chasing a wide one, was not. In his second over after lunch, Brown beat Blakey with one that bounced and then had Morris leg-before with a ball of full length. After Bevan was caught behind, Gough frolicked for a while but a score of 335 was some way off when he was eighth out at 215.

Yorkshire ended the day emphatically. Gough's third ball found Campbell in front of everything with his feet nowhere. Hartley removed Boiling, the nightwatchman, also leg-before, and earned another such decision in his net over when Roseberry shuffled across his stumps. These are dog days for Durham.

## Inimitable Reeve puts his case to Illingworth

By PAT GIBSON

EDGBASTON (first day of four; Hampshire won toss): Hampshire have scored 242 for seven wickets against Warwickshire.

A COUNTY captain suggested the other day that, instead of having light meters, umpires should be equipped with thermometers so that the players could be given the option of leaving the field when the temperature drops below a certain level.

He has a point. It is not much fun playing cricket when it is as cold as it was at Edgbaston yesterday, although the irrepressible Dermot Reeve still found a way to put a smile on Warwickshire's faces. The man could sell refrigerators to eskimos.

The champions probably saw Hampshire in much the same light as Sussex, who had been crushed at Hove, but they were putting up much more of a fight when Laney and Smith took them past 100 with only two wickets down.

Enter Reeve, well aware of the fact that Raymond Illingworth was watching (not, significantly, in the company of his Warwickshire detractors in the committee room but from the press box at the other end) to show that he has no peers when it comes to making things happen.

In his second over, he had Smith, captaining Hampshire for the first time in the absence of the injured Stephenson, caught at the wicket as he pushed forward. In his twelfth, he dismissed Laney the same way after the determined young opener had battled for 4½ hours to equal his highest championship score of 73.

Then, as if satisfied with figures of 12-7-4-2 from his usual rich assortment of swing, seam and subtle variations of pace, Reeve went back to slip and let his specialist bowlers get on with the job of chipping away at Hampshire headed towards what could well be a challenging total on a pitch on which the odd ball has kept disturbingly low.

## Somerset's advantage restricted by Walsh

By SIMON WILDE

BRISTOL (first day of four; Somerset won toss): Somerset, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 210 runs behind Gloucestershire.

COURTNEY WALSH rudely interrupted Somerset's progress at Bristol yesterday with a hostile spell in the final session of the day. Despite bitterly cold conditions, the West Indies fast bowler generated a lively pace and soon had Somerset anxiously seeking to hold out for the morning.

Walsh, who took 11 Somerset wickets on the same ground in 1994, removed Bowler, caught behind in his second over, and Hayhurst, stalling a ball to short leg in his fifth, to bring his side back into contention. Lathwell and Hadden gratefully accepted an offer of bad light with six overs remaining.

Earlier, Gloucestershire, fielding only five specialist batsmen, made poor first use of a blameless pitch and were dismissed half an hour after tea for 263. While unable to rival Walsh for pace, Somerset's seam bowlers performed with commendable discipline.

Caddick, keen to make an impression on the watching England selector, David Grayson, made some deliveries rise steeply. Wright, who lost his helmet taking evasive action, found the ball taking the edge of his bat and looping to Lee at second slip.

Lee, who returned his best figures so far for the county, four for 55, struck with his third delivery, luring Symonds, who began by stroking three fours off Shine, into patting back a simple return catch. He also took the important wicket of Hancock, leg-before on the front foot for an excellent 89, his highest score for two seasons.

Hancock's stand of 122 in 40 overs with Russell, whose 63 was a typically belligerent effort, was Gloucestershire's only partnership of note. Once both had departed in the space of two overs, the remainder of the innings amounted to little.

## House of Lords

## Law Report May 17 1996

## Privy Council

### Disability premium not available

**Bate v Chief Adjudication Officer and Another**  
Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Slynn of Hadley and Lord Hoffmann  
[Speeches May 16]

The claimant, who was severely disabled, was excluded from entitlement to an income support severe disability premium by paragraph 13(2)(a)(i) of Schedule 2 to the Income Support (General) Regulations (SI 1981 No 1967) because she "resided with" her parents in the house owned by them within the meaning of regulation 3(1) but they did not "jointly occupy" it with her within the meaning of regulation 3(2).

On the true construction of subsections (1) and (2) of section 104 of the Social Security Act 1975, as amended by section 2(1) of the Social Security Act 1990, the decision to refuse the claimant the premium had to be treated as correct at all stages of the claim process notwithstanding that a social security commissioner had subsequently decided that two other claimants in a similar position were entitled to the premium.

The House of Lords allowed an appeal by the Chief Adjudication Officer and the Secretary of State for Social Services from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Goff, Lord Justice Mann and Lord Justice Millett) (The Times December 12, 1994) who had allowed an appeal by the claimant, Miss Ann Marie Bate, from the decision of a social security commissioner on January 13, 1995.

The commissioner had allowed an appeal by an adjudication officer from a social security appeal tribunal on November 20, 1990, which had reviewed his decision and awarded Miss Bate the premium as from October 9, 1989.

Mr Stephen Richards and Mr Richard McMahon for the Chief Adjudication Officer and the secretary of state; Mr David Pannick QC and Miss Bethan Harris for Miss Bate.

LORD SLYNN said that Lord Justice Goff had said that it was deplorable that legislation affecting some of the most disadvantaged people in society should be couched in language so difficult for even a lawyer trained and practising in the field to understand.

Whether in the event their Lordships wholly agreed with that view, it was underlined by the fact that Lord Justice Millett had found that the construction of the Act adopted by the commissioner was "not only unwarranted by the wording of subsection (8), but is unacceptable in its effect and capricious in its application."

Income support and the severe disability premium had become payable under the Social Security Act 1996 with effect from April 11,

1988. Miss Bate had received income support from that date but initially had not been paid the premium.

At all material times she had lived with her parents in a house owned by them. Following a commissioner's decision, the Tribunal/Crompton decision (SI 1980/1989) on May 17, 1990 that two other claimants in a similar position were entitled to the allowance, Miss Bate had applied for a review of the decision in her case pursuant to subsection (1A) of section 104, as added by section 2(1) of the Social Security Act 1990, and Schedule 5, paragraph 10(b) of the 1989 Act, on the ground that on the basis of the Tribunal/Crompton decision the adjudication officer's initial decision in 1988 in her case had been erroneous in law.

Subsection (1A), as amended, provided: "Any decision of an adjudication officer may be reviewed, upon the ground that it was erroneous in point of law, by an adjudication officer or, on reference from an adjudication officer, by a social security appeal tribunal."

If that had stood alone, Miss Bate was entitled to have the initial decision in her case reviewed. As his Lordships gave leave, however, subsection (1) applied where in case B the commissioner or the court determined that an adjudication authority had made a decision in that case that was erroneous in law and in case A, decided earlier than case B, a decision had been based on the same error of law so that, but for subsection (8), the earlier decision would fall to be revised on a review for error of law under subsection (1A).

The effect of subsection (8) was that if a question arose on the review of case A as to a person's entitlement to benefit the determination of the commissioner or court was taken as being that the decision had not been erroneous in point of law in respect of any period before the date of the determination.

The result was that the claimant in case A could not take advantage of the determination in case B retrospectively.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Pill and Mr Justice Newman) so held on April 25 when quashing a warrant of

The Court of Appeal had held that subsection (7) only applied to a "question arising on the review". That was limited to review by the adjudication officer and the social security appeal tribunal in Miss Bate's case. The commissioner and the court were not conducting a review; they were dealing with matters "on an appeal from a refusal to entertain a review".

His Lordship was not persuaded that "review" was different from "appeal". It seemed to him that the various stages of reconsideration at each level, including the court, were part of one process: to see whether there was an error of law in the adjudication officer's decision.

There was no warrant for limiting the effect of subsection (8) to cases where a previous decision binding on the adjudication officer had been reversed.

His Lordship declined to draw a legalistic distinction between "found" for facts and "held" for law in subsection (8).

Accordingly, the commissioner had been right on the point and the Court of Appeal wrong. His Lordship was not persuaded that that result was incompatible with European Community law.

The effect of regulation 3 of the 1987 Regulations was that a claimant could not be treated as a severely disabled person if someone other than one of the persons specified in regulation 3(2) was "residing with him" since for the purposes of paragraph 13(2)(a)(i) of Schedule 2 that person was a non-dependant, the assumption apparently being that such a person was likely to assist the claimant to cope with his severe disability so that the premium was not required. But a person was not to be treated as a non-dependant if he "jointly occupied" the claimant's dwelling.

His Lordship did not see any indication that "resides with" was to be given any other than its ordinary meaning. It meant no more than that the claimant and the other person lived in the same residence or dwelling.

There was no need to read in the qualification that the household had to be that of the claimant or that the dwelling had to be one in which the claimant had the legal interest and the other person was

there in a subordinate position or without any legal interest. Accordingly, Miss Bate could not show that she had no non-dependants residing with her unless her parents were persons who "jointly occupied the claimant's dwelling".

His Lordship concluded that, as Lord Justice Hoffmann had said in *Fulwood v Chesterfield Borough Council* (1993) 92 LGR 160, "jointly occupies" involved a legal relationship; it did not involve merely factual co-residence.

With effect from December 2, 1994 by virtue of the Income-related Benefits Scheme (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No 6) Regulations (SI 1994 No 3061), following the Court of Appeal's judgment, regulation 3(1) of the 1987 Regulations had been amended by regulation 2(1) and (2) by adding after "who normally resides with a claimant" the words "or with whom a claimant normally resides," and paragraph 13(2)(a)(i) had been similarly amended.

The present question had thus been answered for the future but in his Lordships' opinion the provision had always had that meaning.

With effect from October 9, 1989 regulation 3(2)(c) had been amended by regulation 3 of the Income Support (General) Amendment Regulations (SI 1989 No 1678) by adding after "person who jointly occupies the claimant's dwelling" the words "and either is a co-owner of that dwelling with the claimant or not there are other owners" or is liable with the claimant or his partner to make payments in respect of his occupation of the dwelling."

So once again from that date the requirement of a legal relationship between the claimant and the other person was specified.

Miss Bate's case had, however, to be determined as of April 11, 1988, and their Lordships had to find that a significant number of cases would turn on the interpretation of the legislation regardless of the amendments.

Lord Goff, Lord Jauncey, Lord Browne-Wilkinson and Lord Hoffmann agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Department of Social Security; Mr David Thomas, Child Poverty Action Group.

**Wa Chau-piu v The Queen**  
Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Sir John May  
[Judgment May 14]

In dismissing the appellant's application for leave to appeal against conviction out of time, the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong had wrongly taken into account admissions that he had committed the offence made by his counsel in mitigation after conviction, holding on that basis that no miscarriage of justice had occurred.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council allowed an appeal by the appellant, Yu Chun-piu, from the dismissal of his application for leave to appeal out of time against his conviction on December 14, 1990, of robbery and possession of a firearm.

Section 83 of the Criminal Procedure Ordinance provides: "... the Court of Appeal shall allow an appeal against conviction if it thinks — (a) that the conviction should be set aside on the ground that under the circumstances of the case it is unsafe or unsatisfactory ... Provided that the Court of Appeal may, notwithstanding that it is of opinion that the point raised in the appeal might be decided in favour of the appellant, dismiss the appeal if it considers that no miscarriage of justice has actually occurred."

By section 83(2) notice of appeal or application for leave to appeal against conviction had to be given within 28 days from the date of conviction or, where sentence of conviction or sentence of imprisonment was passed more than seven days thereafter, within 28 days from when the sentence was passed, but section 83(3) enabled the Court of Appeal to extend that time.

Mr Martin Thomas, QC and Mr Robert Britton for the appellant; Mr J. Greig, QC, Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, Hong Kong, and Mr Darryl Saw, Senior Assistant Crown Prosecutor, Hong Kong, for the Crown.

SIR JOHN MAY said that three armed and masked men entered a night club. Three men were seen to leave and were detained by three police officers. The one alleged to have been the appellant produced a pistol and shouted that they just wanted money. The men then fled and only one was arrested. When questioned by the police he admitted the offence and implicated the appellant and Yu Sze-ming.

Subsequently the appellant was arrested and interviewed. He denied being involved. At an identification parade he was identified by two of the three police officers as the man who had the gun at the scene of the crime.

The appellant did not give evidence in the trial but his girlfriend was called to give evidence in support of his alibi. At the trial the first witness, Leung Kwok-man, pleaded guilty. The appellant and Yu Sze-ming pleaded not guilty but were convicted by the jury's unanimous

verdict. Each was remanded in custody for probation reports and came up for sentence on January 8, 1991. The probation report on the appellant referred to his frank admission that he was involved and the reason he had given for committing the robbery.

When the appellant came up for sentence the court had the probation report before it. In mitigation, the appellant's counsel, Mr Thomas J., said that it was apparent from the probation officer's report that the appellant had shown remorse since the conviction and he had given the probation officer the reason why he had committed the robbery.

Their Lordships did not think that the delay of some 10 months in the start and prosecution of the appeal in Hong Kong should of itself be fatal to the appellant's present appeal.

On January 18, 1991, the appellant had filed his own notice of application for leave to appeal against conviction. It was in substance the same as the one filed against sentence but had ultimately abandoned it. However, the third defendant, Yu Sze-ming, had applied for leave to appeal against both conviction and sentence.

His appeal was heard and in a reserved judgment on May 15, 1992, the court upheld the appeal against conviction on the ground that the judge had failed to direct the jury upon special weaknesses in the identification evidence, namely, whether the identifying police officers had colluded with each other about the case and about the identifying features and had told lies about so doing. On the retrial ordered by the Court of Appeal Yu Sze-ming was acquitted.

On May 19, 1992, the appellant applied for leave to appeal against conviction out of time. One of the grounds was identical with the same ground in the successful appeal of the third defendant. Counsel for the Crown opposed the application and concentrated his

attack upon the admissions allegedly made by Mr Yu in mitigation.

The Court of Appeal refused to grant leave to appeal out of time, saying: "We are satisfied that the appellant admitted, through his counsel, that he had committed the offence and that we are entitled to take that admission into account when considering whether there has been any miscarriage of justice."

"We are satisfied that, although the point raised in his appeal might have been decided in his favour, no miscarriage of justice has occurred. In the circumstances, we are satisfied that the proper course is to refuse the application for leave to appeal against conviction out of time."

The appellant's appeal was put forward on his behalf under section 83(1)(a) of the Ordinance and was based on the contention that in all the circumstances of the case his conviction was unsafe and unsatisfactory because of the judge's failure to direct the jury about the possibility of collusion among the police officers who had given evidence of identification.

In the case of the appellant's co-defendant, Yu Sze-ming, save for the alleged admissions in mitigation by counsel, the facts and circumstances were substantially the same as in the case of the appellant, and not only did an appeal succeed but also on a retrial Yu Sze-ming was acquitted.

Their Lordships considered it to be implicit in the judgment of the Court of Appeal now appealed from that in all probability, but for the alleged admissions by counsel, the appellant's appeal would also have been allowed as had that of his co-defendant.

If that which was said in mitigation by Mr Yu in the appellant's behalf when he was brought up for sentence was to be held against the appellant to the extent contended for and indeed upheld by the Court of Appeal, then defendants and their counsel mitigating on their behalf after a

jury's verdict were in a difficulty. The inherent difficulty was, however, avoided if one considered what the real position was. Generally, at the time counsel mitigated, there had been a trial at the start of which the accused had pleaded not guilty, of itself inconsistent with any subsequent alleged admission of guilt.

Then after a guilty verdict and against that background counsel had to try to persuade the trial judge to pass as lenient a sentence as possible. Counsel had to do so in the knowledge that notwithstanding his client's original plea of not guilty the jury had taken a different view of the case.

It would frequently be unrealistic for counsel, when mitigating, to reiterate in strong terms his client's innocence and yet in the same breath to ask for leniency.

In their Lordships' view, at least in the present case, one had to ask how one should realistically interpret counsel's remarks in mitigation. Was he inviting the gateway and set at naught his client's original plea? Or was he bound in the circumstances to accept the jury's verdict and do what he could from that starting point to mitigate the consequences.

In their Lordships' view, in this case at least, the latter was the realistic approach and it would be unjust to attribute to the appellant from counsel's mitigation an admission that he had in fact committed the offence which he had only very recently been contending against.

The Court of Appeal were wrong to dismiss the appellant's application for the reason that they gave for doing so. Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be allowed, that leave to appeal out of time should be granted and that the case should be remitted to the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong for further consideration in the light of their Lordships' judgment.

Solicitors: Edwin Coe; Solicitors.

## Listening to police radio illegal

**Director of Public Prosecutions v Waite**  
Before Lord Justice Pill and Mr Justice Newman  
[Judgment May 9]

It was clear that tuning a radio scanner to a police frequency and listening to police messages when not authorised to do so was an offence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an appeal by case stated by the prosecution against the dismissal by Magistrate Justices on November 14, 1995 of the case brought against Darren Waite under section 5(b)(i) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act of 1949, as amended by section 3 of the Post Office Act 1969 and the Ministry of

Posts and Telecommunications Order (SI 1974 No 691).

Section 5 of the 1949 Act, as amended, provides: "Any person who — (b) otherwise than under the authority of the secretary of state ... (i) uses any wireless telegraphy apparatus with intent to obtain information as to the contents, sender or addressee of any message ... which neither the person using the apparatus nor any person on whose behalf he is acting is authorised by the secretary of state to receive ... shall be guilty of an offence."

Mr Malcolm Morse for the prosecution; Miss Lynn Teyton for Waite.

MR JUSTICE NEWMAN said that the words "intent to obtain information" were clear. No intent

over and above that requirement was to be imported into the section.

The appellant had submitted that the police channel transmitted nothing but information and had no educational, recreational or entertainment function.

It was impossible to listen to the channel without obtaining information as to the messages transmitted on it.

The statute provided that any person who did so intending to do so was guilty of an offence. By contrast a person who chanced upon the channel while tuning a radio and passed over it could not be said to intend to obtain information and therefore was not guilty of an offence.

Lord Justice Pill agreed.

Solicitors: CPS, Leamington Spa; Cocks Lloyd & Co, Newcastle.

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Dr Massini, left, delivers a decisive challenge to King Alex in the Michael Seely Memorial Glasgow Conditions Stakes at York yesterday

# Dr Massini answers Derby call

By JULIAN MASCAT

THE changing discipline of preparing Derby candidates is perfectly illustrated by the Michael Seely Memorial Glasgow Stakes. Scripted as an opportunity for inexperienced horses, it has become just about the most informative Epsom trial.

Dr Massini, trained by Michael Stoute, certainly caught the imagination in winning yesterday's renewal. Mick Kinane restrained his mount towards the rear before the combination snatched the finishing kick. Bookmakers were clearly taken by the colt, promoting him to 7-1 for the Blue Riband.

In normal circumstances those odds would be an insult to the proven group performer. However, the Dante Stakes on Wednesday demonstrated why the Derby is not a Derby's secrets. This colt must

therefore enter calculations even if he has much to prove. And there is plenty to admire in Dr Massini, unraced as a juvenile but now unbeaten in two starts.

"He is an interesting prospect," Kinane said. "He is a lazy, tough little fellow who is learning all the time. He'll get 12 furlongs well." The jockey's later point was based on Dr Massini's zest in the final furlong, but there are grounds for exercising some caution. King Alex, the runner-up, signalled his inexperience at every turn. He spoiled his chance by running too freely and was eased by Pat Eddery.

The other bone of contention is Dr Massini's pedigree. His half-brother, Weigh Anchor, was a son of Slip Anchor, a noted stamina source. But Weigh Anchor proved most effective at distances short of 12 furlongs. Weigh Anchor and Dr Massini are out of Argon Laser, a Kris mare who

never won beyond seven furlongs. However, it is greatly in Dr Massini's favour that his sire is the omnipotent Sadler's Wells, who has long made exceptions of rules. Otherwise, Dr Massini, named after a French surgeon, is custom-built for Epsom. He is on the small side, which is no bad thing, and has a relaxed

disposition. His attitude to racing is exemplary. Dushyantor, runner-up to Glory Of Dancer in the Dante, attracted support for the Blue Riband yesterday. He was cut by Ladbrokes to 11-2 from 7-1. Interestingly, in spite of the

unsatisfactory nature of the Dante, the first two home on Wednesday have now usurped Mark Of Epsom and Even Top, who carry the 2,000 Guineas torch to Epsom.

Mick's Love, not presently quoted in the Derby exchanges, may yet take his chance at Epsom. He is pencilled in for the French equivalent but Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, said: "A lot will depend on the ground. We have always felt Chantilly would suit him but if the ground is good at Epsom, he might go there."

Crisford's comments came after Classic Cliche, the St Leger winner, made a heart-warming return to action in the East Coast Yorkshire Cup. Displaying all his old enthusiasm, Classic Cliche edged out Strategic Choice to prevail on a surface faster than ideal. The frenzied gallop set by Grey Star helped Classic Cliche to a track record under Kinane's

urgings. This was Kinane's seventh winner at a fixture where the full range of his skills has been evident.

A speed battle in the early stages of the Duke Of York Stakes primed the contest for those inclined to pounce late. Venture Capitalist has few peers in this respect, and a determined late surge to deny Branson Abby and Royale Figure in a thrilling scramble for the line.

Still more remarkable was the EBF Racing Channel Stakes for juveniles, in which the lead alternated among each of the five contestants. First Andreyev, who hung left, and then Hawaii, who ducked sharply right, looked likely to prevail. But Belgravia, the first to lead and shuffled back to last at halfway, finished strongly to triumph from Referendum. The latter was the only contestant to chart a straight passage.

Hanbury's colt shines on debut

TIPS CREEK stamped himself a potentially useful juvenile with an impressive victory in the Warmminster Maiden Stakes at Salisbury yesterday. Backed from 5-2 to 7-4, the Ben Hanbury-trained newcomer, ridden by Willie Ryan, defeated Maserati Monk by 3½ lengths after taking the lead a furlong out.

"I hope he's Royal Ascot class as he's a very nice looking horse," Hanbury said of the £90,000 son of Dayjur. "First he'll go for a listed race at the Curragh on Saturday week and, as long as he's all right, he'll then go to Ascot."

Alan Daly was banned for five days (May 25-30) after being adjudged guilty of irresponsible riding on Daily Risk, the clear winner of the Redenham Claiming Stakes at Salisbury yesterday. Daily Risk was disqualified and the race awarded to Flying Pennant. The stew-

Lorcan Wyer will miss the remainder of the National Hunt season after breaking a collarbone in a fall from Briar's Delight in a week-day evening. Wyer, 31, hopes to return during the summer jumping term, which starts next month.

Peter Chapple-Hyam was on the mark with Chief Contender in the Durham Conditions Stakes. The Sadler's Wells colt still holds a Derby entry and could take his chance. "He travelled well throughout today," Robert Haylin, the winning rider, said.

Wendy Woods rode his first turf winner for Geoff Wragge, the Newmarket trainer, when State Dancer opened her account in division one of the Netherhampton Maiden Fillies Stakes.

Sound Check emerged the winner of the Druids Handicap by a short head from Dancing Image after six horses were in with a chance inside the final furlong.

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## NEWMARKET

THUNDERER  
2.15 Open Credit: 2.50 Cynara's Lad, 3.20 Opaque, 3.50 World Premier, 4.20 Cobweb, 4.55 Arnhem, 5.25 The Stager.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.15 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND DITCH  
MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O fillies: £4,152; 6f) (4 runners)  
1 (5) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2-6 Open Credit, 4-1 Solitaire, 7-1 Rock to Love, 8-1 Spide.

2.50 HGB SPARK PLUGS RATED HANDICAP  
(£7,894; 7f) (5)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

3.20 EQUINE FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS  
HANDICAP (£4,620; 1m 6f) (10)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

3.50 KING CHARLES II STAKES  
(£10,000; 1m 4f) (10)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

4.20 EQUINE FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS  
CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,720; 1m) (11)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

4.55 ASHLEY MAIDEN STAKES  
(£3,700; 1m 4f) (10)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

5.25 TUDORHAM LIMITED STAKES  
(£4,503; 7f) (9)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

COURSE SPECIALISTS  
THUNDERER  
2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

2.30 MOWBRAY SELLING STAKES  
(Div 1: £1,970; 7f) (9)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

3.00 DICK PEACOCK SPRINT HANDICAP  
(£4,747; 6f) (16)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

COURSE SPECIALISTS  
THUNDERER  
2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
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3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

2.30 MOWBRAY SELLING STAKES  
(Div 1: £1,970; 7f) (9)  
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THUNDERER  
2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
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3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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(Div 1: £1,970; 7f) (9)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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(£4,747; 6f) (16)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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COURSE SPECIALISTS  
THUNDERER  
2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

2.30 MOWBRAY SELLING STAKES  
(Div 1: £1,970; 7f) (9)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

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(£4,747; 6f) (16)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

COURSE SPECIALISTS  
THUNDERER  
2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

## STRATFORD

THUNDERER  
6.15 Stan Wym, 6.45 Roboro, 7.15 Rimowski, 7.45 General Crack, 8.15 Proud Sun, 8.45 Flying Gunner, 9.15 Proud Sun.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

6.15 SARAH SECORDE BIRTHDAY MARES  
ONLY NOVICES SELLING HURDLE  
(£2,227; 2m 110yd) (17 runners)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

6.45 ICL NOVICES CHASE  
(£4,029; 2m 5f 110yd) (4)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

7.15 PERTEMPS HANDICAP HURDLE  
(£2,444; 3m 3f) (10)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

7.45 TOM PETTIFER HANDICAP  
CHASE (£5,183; 3m) (6)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

8.15 UK PETROLEUM HUNTERS  
CHASE (Amateurs) (£2,78m; 3m) (10)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

8.45 EDWARDS ROVER NATIONAL  
HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£3,248; 2m 6f 110yd) (15)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

COURSE SPECIALISTS  
THUNDERER  
2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

2.30 MOWBRAY SELLING STAKES  
(Div 1: £1,970; 7f) (9)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
4 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

3.00 DICK PEACOCK SPRINT HANDICAP  
(£4,747; 6f) (16)  
1 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
2 (2) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
3 (4) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86  
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5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

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GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (9 runners)  
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5 (1) 2 OPEN CREDIT 11 (B) M Cael 8-11 J Ryan 86

2.30 MOWBRAY SELLING STAKES  
(Div 1: £1,970; 7f) (9)  
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2.00 Islay Brown, 2.30 Bold Angel, 3.00 It's Accidents, 3.30 Lord Ancho, 4.00 Anchovy, 4.30 Dawna, 5.00 Ninety-Five, 5.30 Brocton Gold.  
GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.00 EASINGWOLD RATING RELATED MAIDEN  
STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,188; 1m) (







## 35

(two incidentally didn't cotton on to how Willy for months) kept smirking smugly; not an attractive sight.

I feel terribly jerked around by the reappearance of Arthur. We have already had the reappearance of Frank Butcher to contend with, and it's like watching revenants sitting down to dinner with the quick — it breaks through the fabric of soap opera reality. But at the same time, the writers of *EastEnders* know what they are doing. I applaud the realistic current storyline about Phil's disgruntled daddyhood, as Kath grows ever more besotted and Donna-ish, and Uncle Grant goes so soppy above the cradle that he eyes cross. Phil's voice is so dead and husky at present that it hardly registers at all; meanwhile, close observation reveals that his right arm has been replaced by a plastic one bent at the elbow, with a pillow wedged into the crotch.

Lynne  
Truss



doing, and I applaud the realist current storyline about Phil's disgruntled daddyhood, as Kath grows ever more besotted and Mr. Donna-ish, and Uncle Grant gets so soppy above the cradle that his eyes cross. Phil's voice is so deep and husky at present that it hardly registers at all; meanwhile, closer observation reveals that his right arm has been replaced by a false one, bent at the elbow, with a pinball game welded into the end.

### Death of a Salesman

*BBC2, midday*

00 The Big Brassiest  
 The Golden Girls (r)  
 31497  
 rekai (551963) 9.45 Stop  
 (551485) 10.00 Furys  
 253) 10.10 The Mix  
 0.25 Technology Prog  
 40 Off Limits (687901)  
 Score (927023) 11.20  
 (291748) 11.35 Schools at  
 (229) 11.40 Living Proof  
 2678)  
 (r) (Teletext) (s) (87543)  
 Street (r) (56290) 1.30  
 sk (r) (3942785)  
 stolen Life (1946, b/w)  
 and starring Bette Davis, in  
 twin sisters, one good and  
 one, who both fall in love with  
 seduced by Curtis Bernhardt

314017) *The Moor* (1/8) (Teletext)  
 314018) *Twelve to One* (Teletext) (s)  
 314019) *Rescue* (1) (Teletext) (s)  
 314020) *An Inspector Calls* (1)  
 314021) *Mr Cooper* (Teletext) (s)  
 314022) *Happy Days* (1) (Teletext)  
 314023) *Terrytoons* (821035)  
 314024) *News* (Teletext) (619104)  
 314025) *Cancer sufferer Marie*  
 314026) *Are You Aware?* breast  
 314027) *sister, offering advice and*  
 314028) *cancer sufferers* (952765)  
 314029) *ry. Tom Barber and his team*  
 314030) *scular garden in Cac Hir,*  
 314031) *red.* (Teletext) (62772)  
 314032) *Indesley strikes a deal with*  
 314033) *ly* (s) (5307)

**Life and Baby (9.30pm)**  
**After Birth: The Butten-Effect** (Teleland) (s)  
 Terene drops a bombshell (88272)  
**Warner — Who Else?** (s)  
 Last of the series (884184)  
 by popular black music- (s) (6/8) (574659)  
**Five Heartbeats** (1991).  
 rise and fall of a 1960s  
 quintet. Directed by  
 and Townsend (59252037)  
**Mad McGinlin** (1954).  
 stars as a 19th-century  
 goes on a grisly orgy of

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City Rocks (4057128) 2.00 Down

Jaguarin (96430524) 7.30 Asan  
(2870872) 2.30 Zoe Presents  
3.00 Shree Krishna (4772134)  
Greatest Hits (9643785) 10.00  
April Bait (28739542) 10.30  
K (47721524) 11.00 ZeeKa Ke  
11.30 Bhaskar Ek Noh  
12.30 Sunil Ruyard (4789572)  
Amr Sango (96435229) 4.00  
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5.00 Zee (9643785) 5.00 News  
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S (9643785) 8.00 News  
I) 9.30 Antares (19517038)  
40 FILM: Between (4023022)

**ION NETWORK/TNT**

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See cartoons from 5am to 7pm,  
plus an hour below.

**12:30-1:00** Nitro on TNT (24/47/123)  
**1:00-1:30** Britain's Next Top Model (1963) (24/47/123)  
**1:30-2:00** America's Next Top Model Season  
9 (18/00) The Last Challenge  
(55/28/123) 11.55 The Formula  
7/18/767) 1.55am-5.00 Battle-  
line (1949) (6453025)

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**QVC**

Provides 24-hour news and QVC is  
a shopping channel.

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**PERFORMANCE**

At 10.15pm 8.00 Verdi's Otello from  
the 1950s  
At 11.00pm 8.00 Beethoven's Ninth Symphony  
from 1950s  
At 11.15pm 8.00 Elton John's Greatest Hits

6.35am The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (5065123) 7.00 The Big Break (27748) 9.00 The Golden Girls (Teletext) (81497)

9.30 Schools: Eureka! (551963) 9.45 Look Listen (551485) 10.00 Fourn Fann (9584253) 10.10 The 101 (214093) 10.40 The Animals (5679) 11.05 The Score (9270253) 11 Stage One (9291746) 11.35 School Work (5265123) 11.40 Living P (7740678) (295878)

12.00 Garden Party (r) Teletext (s) (8754)

12.30pm Sesame Street (r) (56299) Alfred J. Kwak (r) (39472765)

1.55 FILM: A Stolen Life (1946, produced by and starring Bette Davis)

the close knit of their sisters, the good  
 friends and the love that still in love  
 Glenn Ford. Directed by Curtis Bernier  
 (Teletel) (62314017)

4.00 **Secrets of the Moor** (1/8) (Tele  
 (678) 4.30 **Fifteen to One** (Teletel)  
 (562) 5.00 **Rescue** (1) (Teletel)  
 (7388) 5.30 **An Inspector Calls**  
 (Teletel) (a) (814)

6.00 **Hangin' with My Cooper** (Teletel)  
 (32388) 6.25 **Happy Days** (1) (Tele  
 (40190) 6.50 **Terrorisms** (6231035)

7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletel) (619104)

7.55 **Get Netted**. Cancer survival  
 established the *Are You Aware?* b  
 support for all patients, offering social  
 support for all patients (6231035)

8.00 **Garden Party**. Tom Barber and his  
 visit a spectacular garden in Coo  
 Llanymor, Dyfed (Teletel) (6272)

**8.30 Brookside.** Lindsey strikes a deal  
Gary (Teletext) (s) (5307)

**9.00 Cybill.** Cybill goes on a date with  
acting coach Trevor (5017)



Emma Cunniffe and baby (9:30)

9.30 **CRUISE** Life After Birth: The Birth of a New Life Effect (Telefilm) (35/67)

10.00 Roseanne. Darlene drops a bomb (Telefilm) (s) (88272)

10.30 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (814520)

11.10 Eurotrash. Last of the series (88418)

11.45 Flava. Videos by popular black music makers of today (s) (6/8) (574659)

12.15am FILM: The Five Heartbeats (118) Charting the rise and fall of a 1950s Harlem rock quartet. Directed by director Robert Townsend (5822503)

1.30am FILM: The Word. Maclean (5822503)

**Vincent Price** stars as a 19th-century illusionist who goes on a grisly orgy of revenge and murder when he loses several inventions to a crooked employer and his wife to a light magician. With **Murphy**, **Eve Gabor** and **John Ericson**. Directed by **John Brahm** (892373). E at \$3.55am.

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**CARTOON NETWORK/TNT**

Continues cartoons from Sat to Tues  
then TNT films as below.

7.00pm WCW Nitro on TNT (324)  
8.00pm Captain Steel (R) (324)  
9.00pm 10.00 Thunder A Wreck on TV  
(S) (324) (R) 10.00 The Last Challe-  
nger (R) (9632321) 11.55 The For-  
gotten (R) (7181768) 1.55am-5.00 B  
ground (1941) (9535322)

**CNN/QVC**

CNN provides 24-hour news and Q  
the home shopping channel.

**PERFORMANCE**

7.00pm Mel Lewis 8.00 Vero's Studio  
8.00pm The Best of the Best 9.00pm

a risk inherent in emerging markets investment.

■ Changes in exchange

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# Faldo forced to play his ace

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